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Nessie & Other Aquatic Monsters:
SECRETS of LOCH NESS

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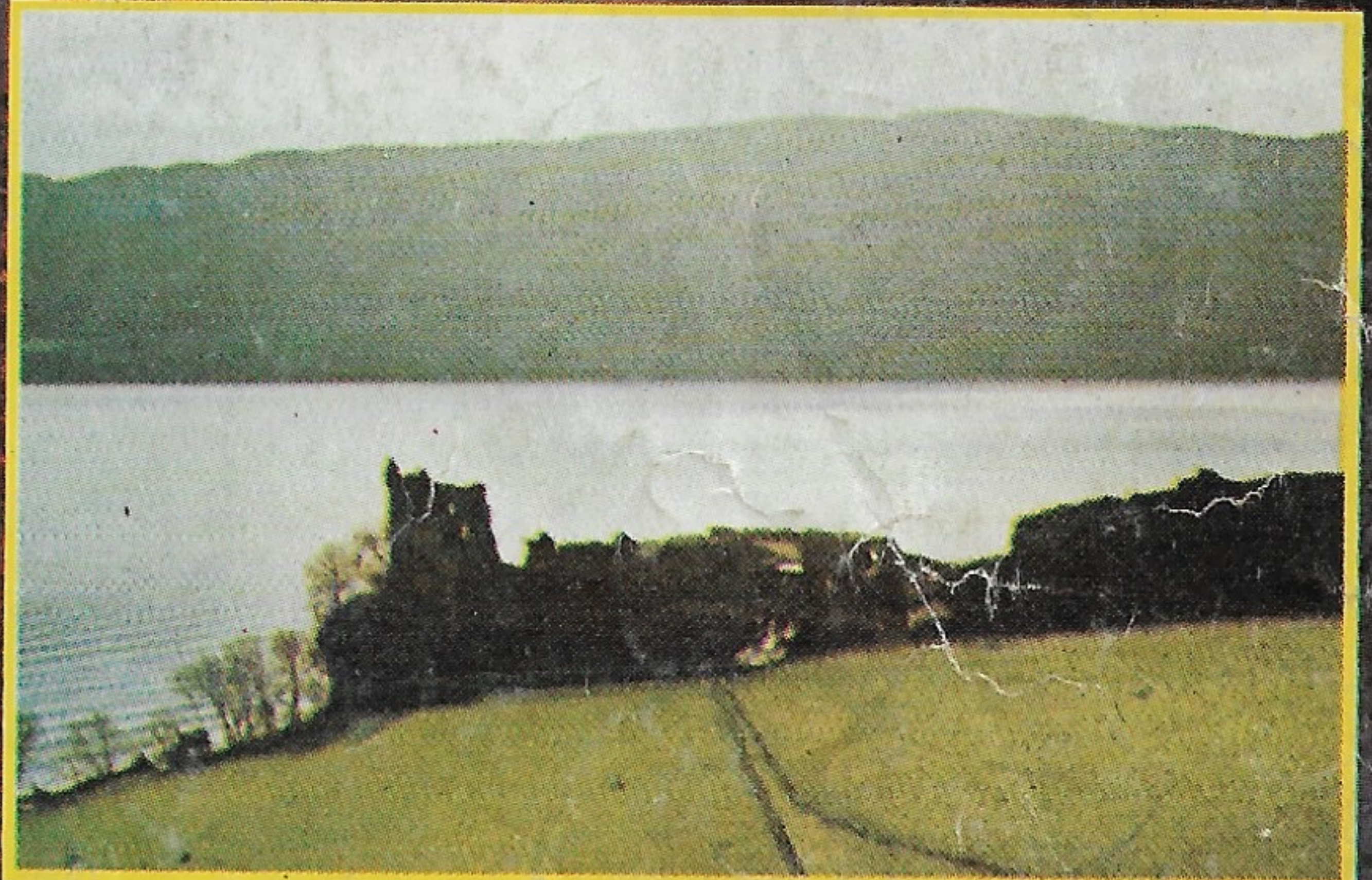

Loch Ness:
The Monster's Brooding Scottish Home

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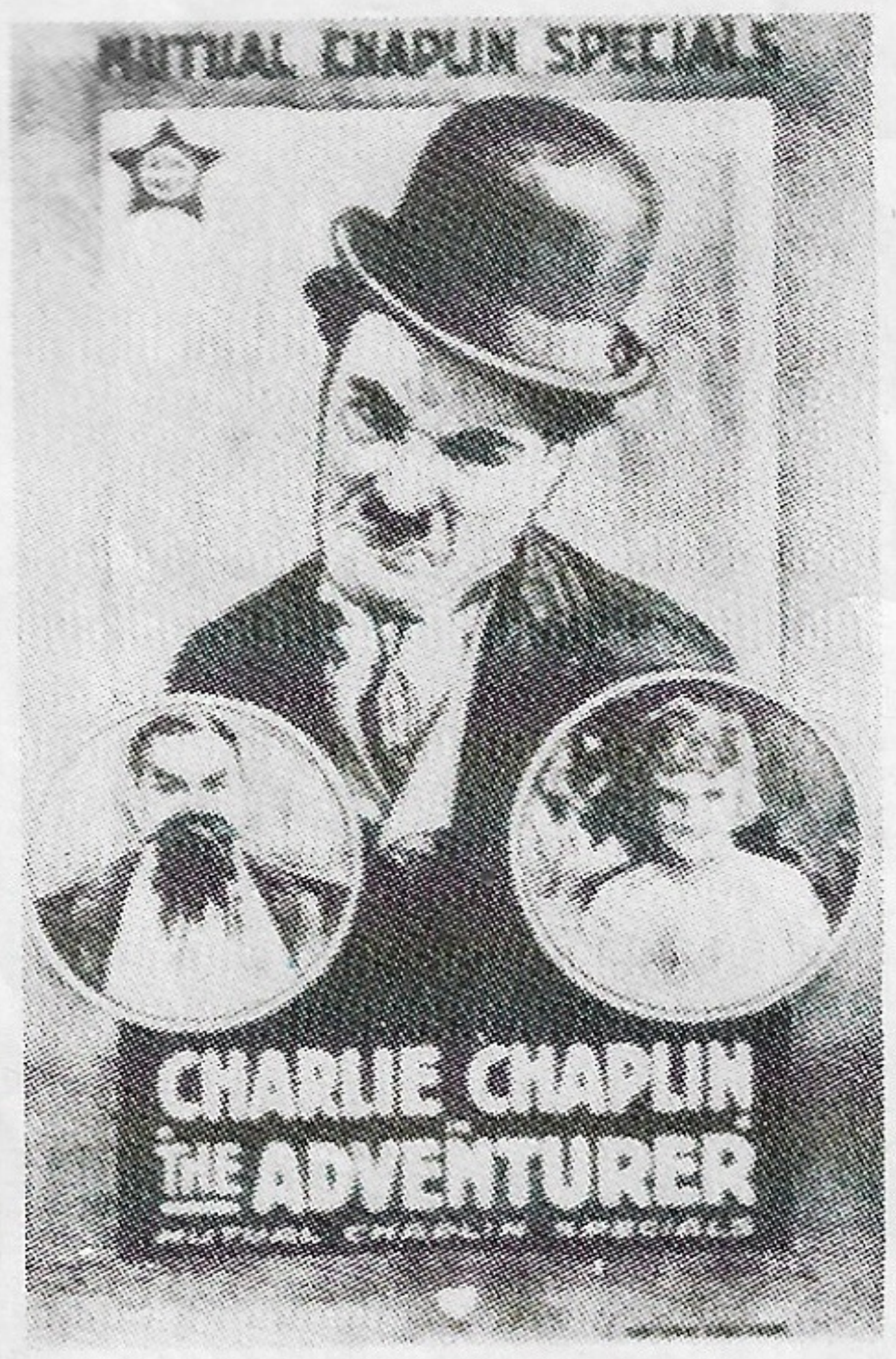
Has Anybody Seen the Champ of Lake Champlain?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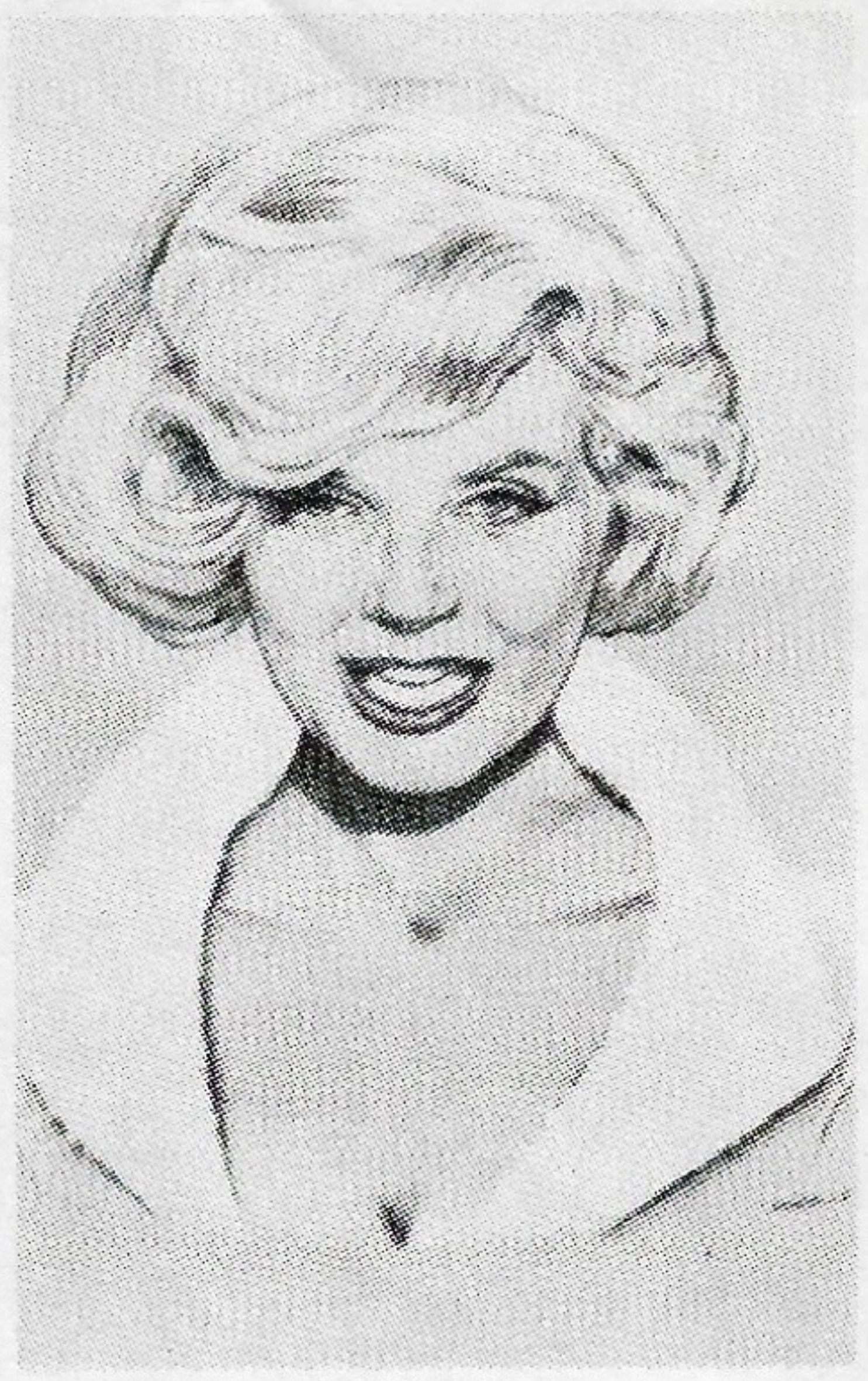

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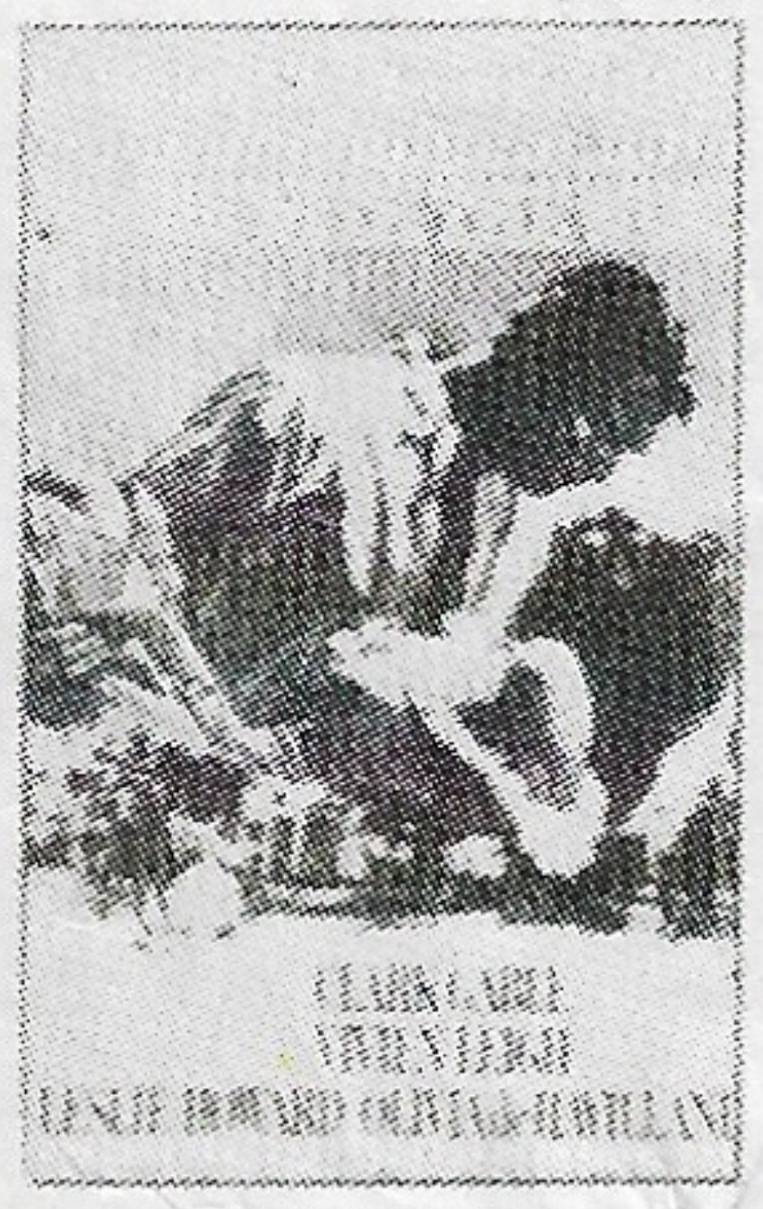
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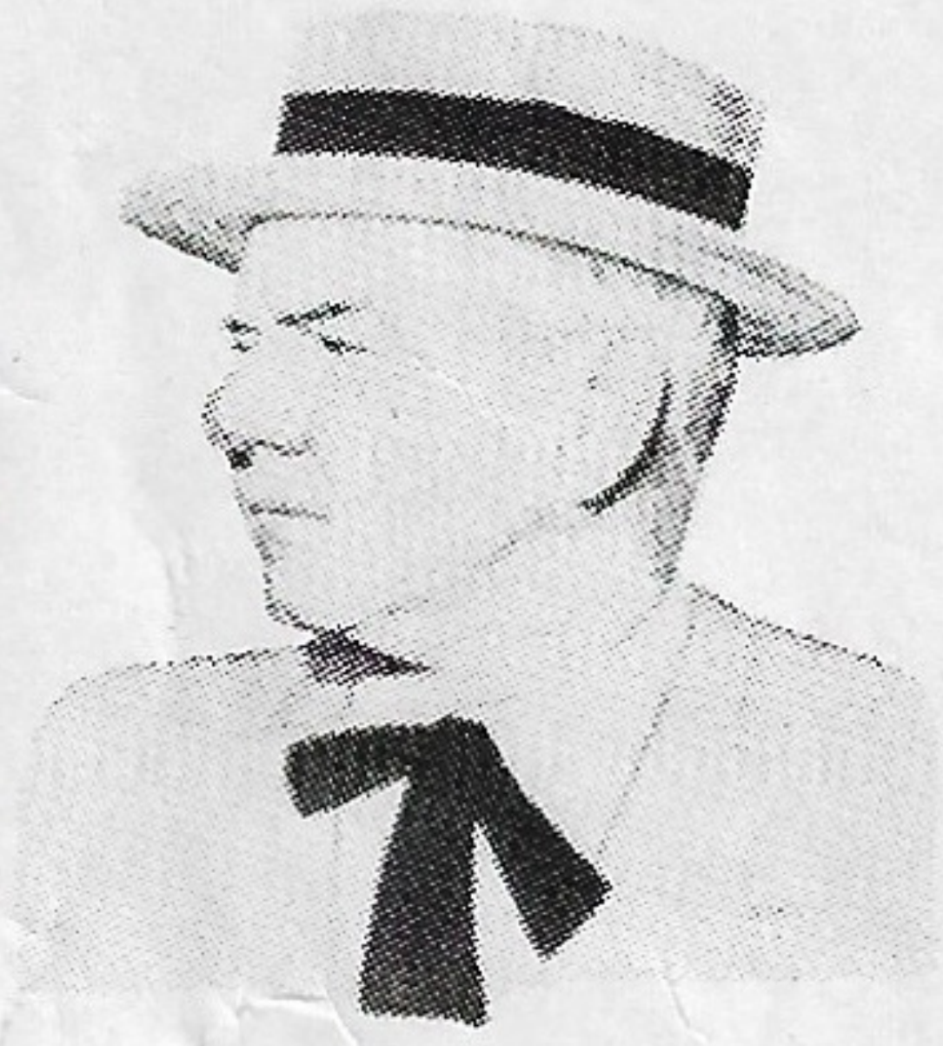

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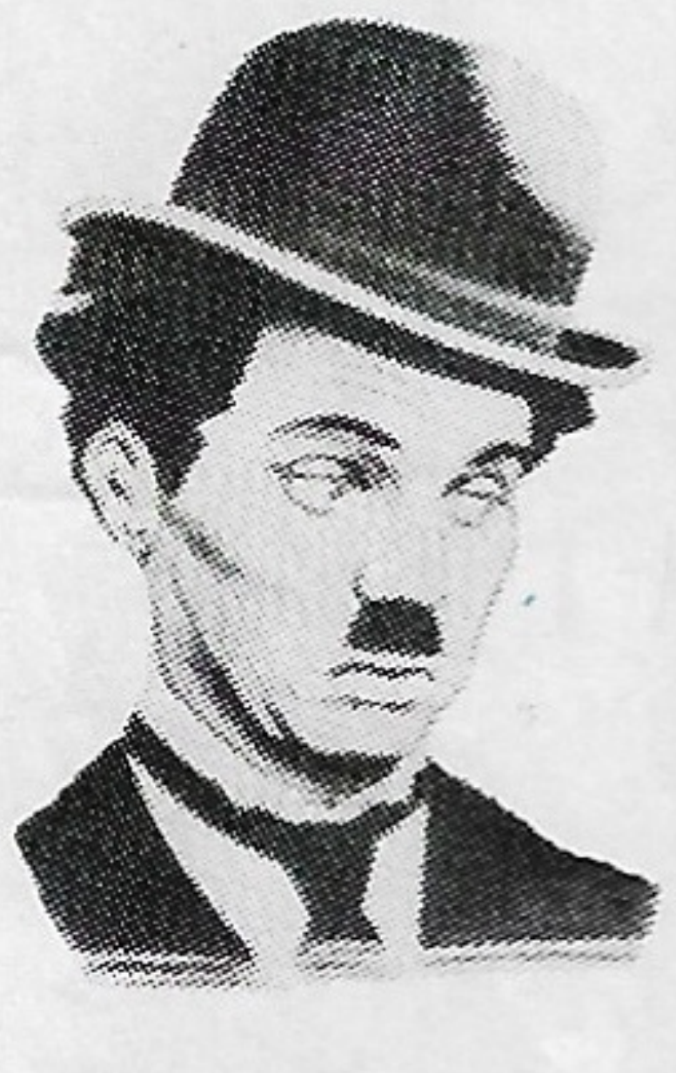

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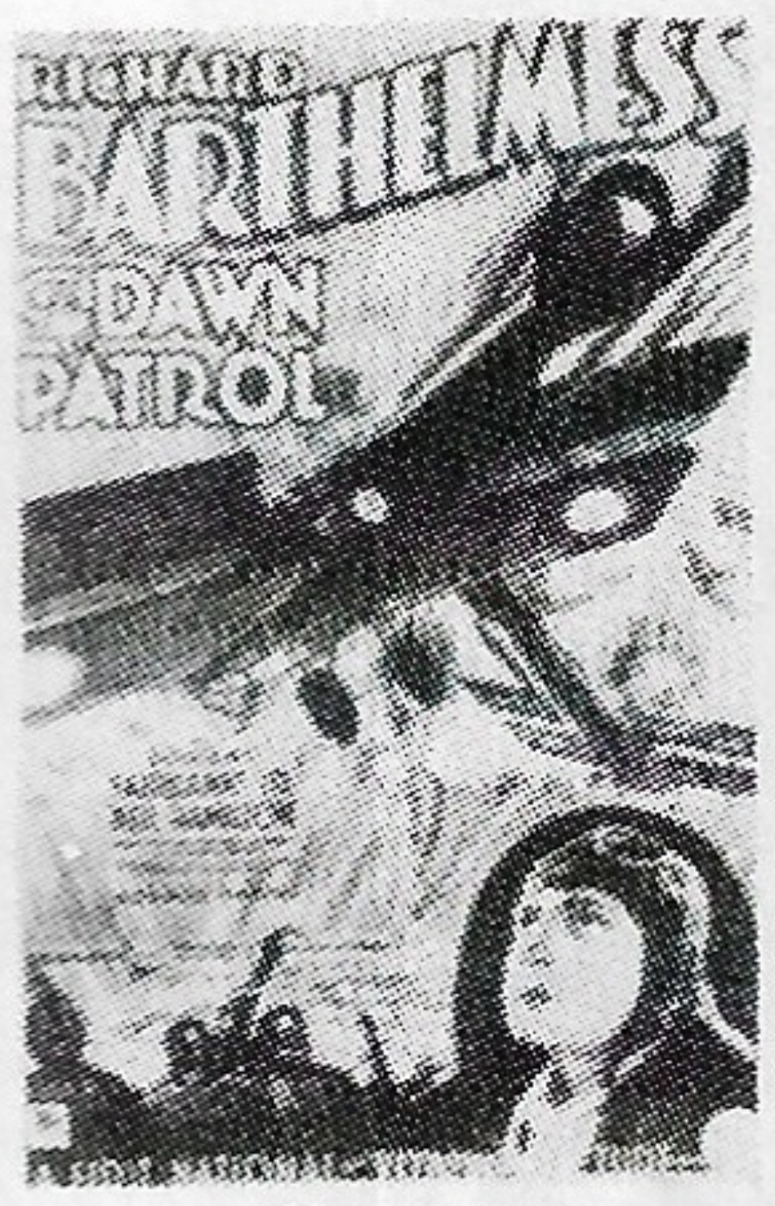
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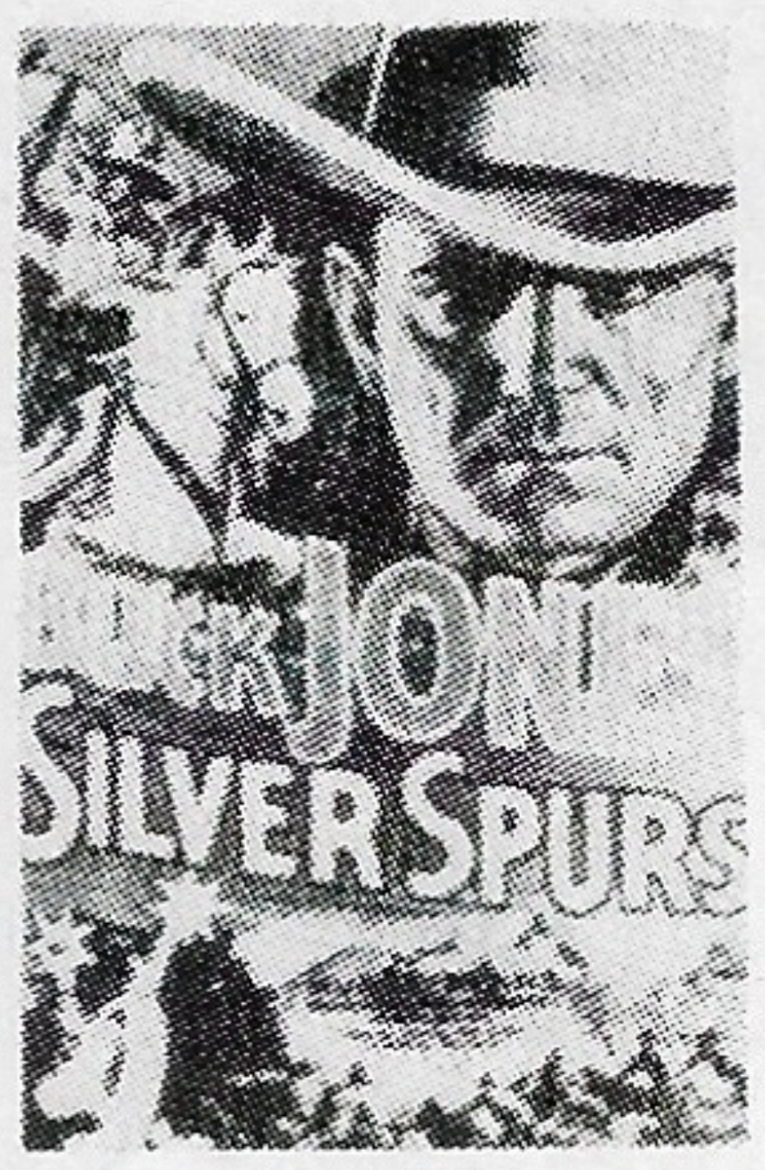
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SILVER SPURS

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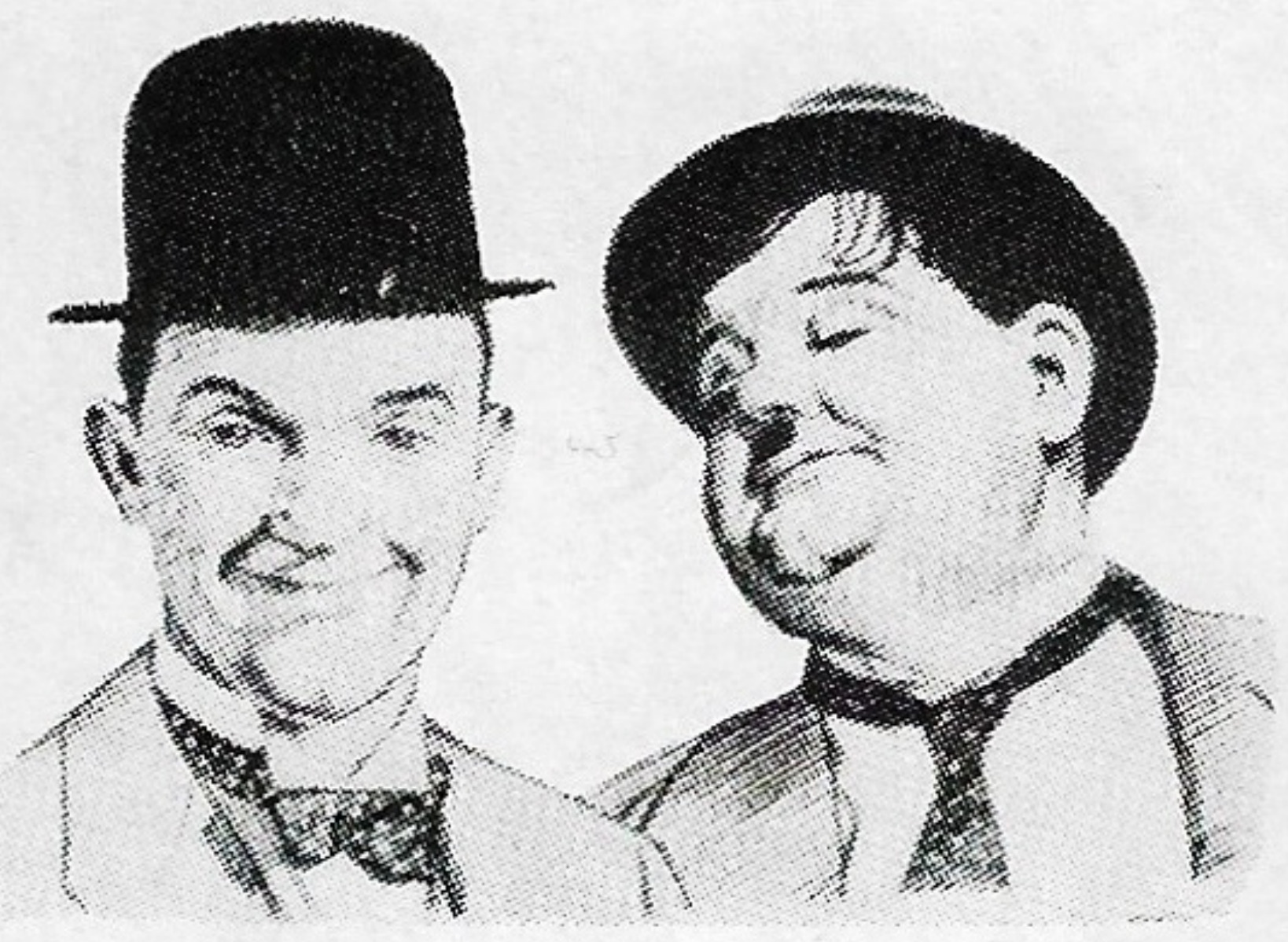

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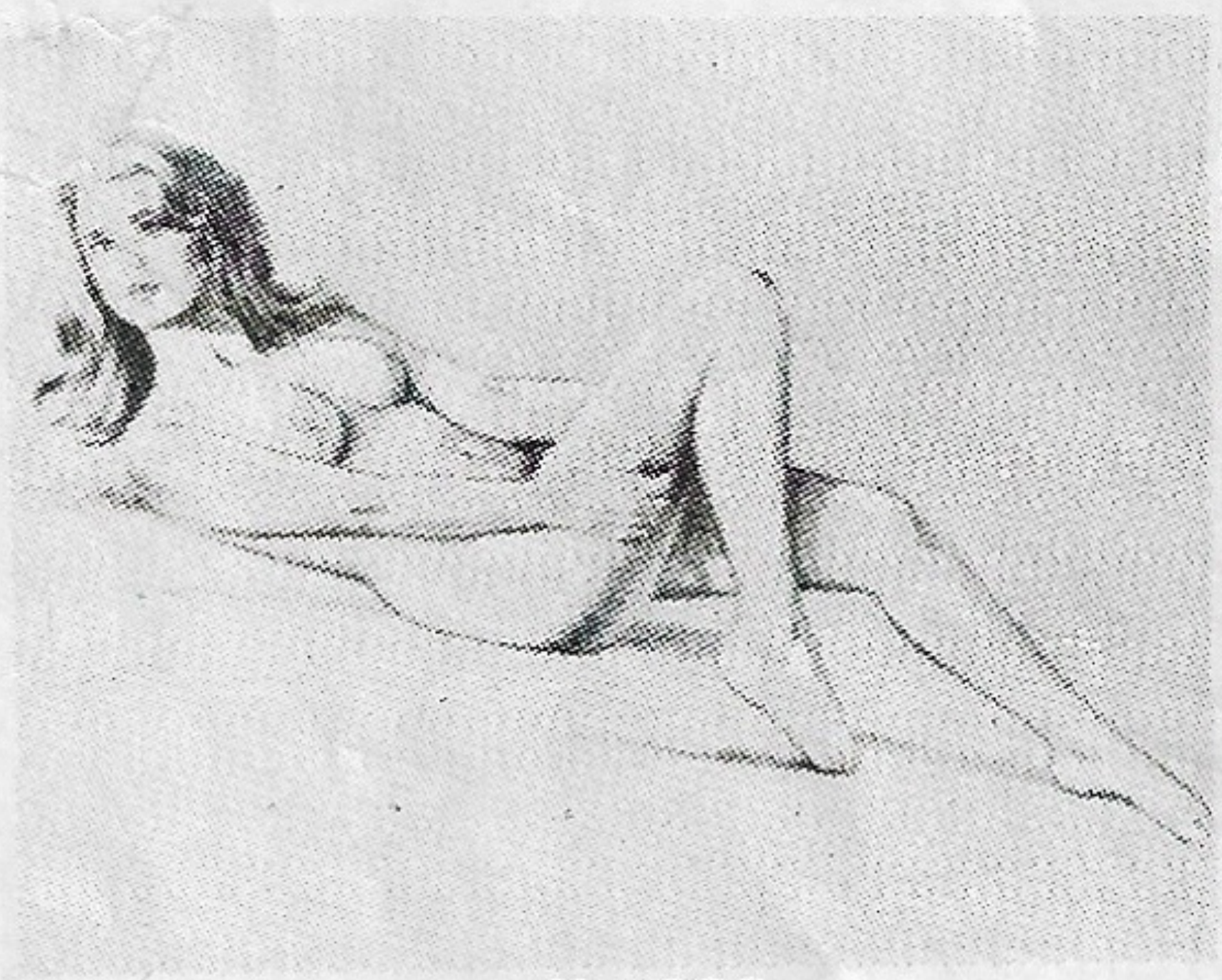

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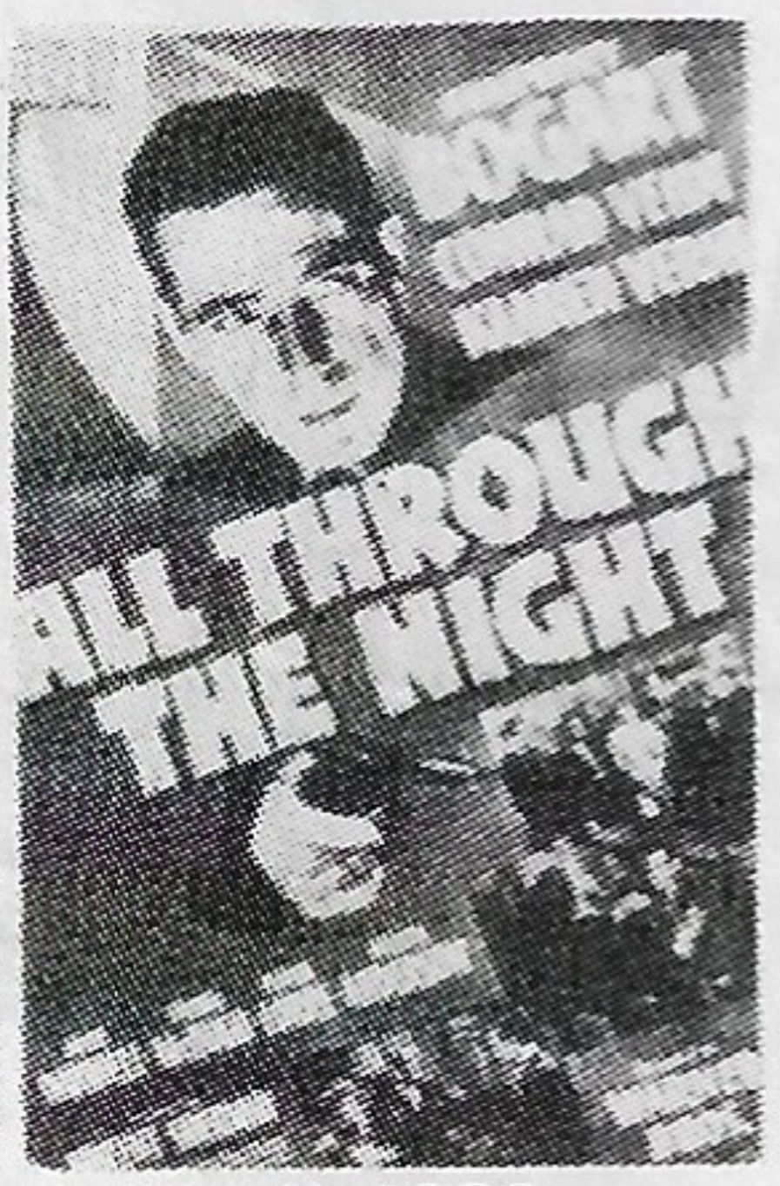
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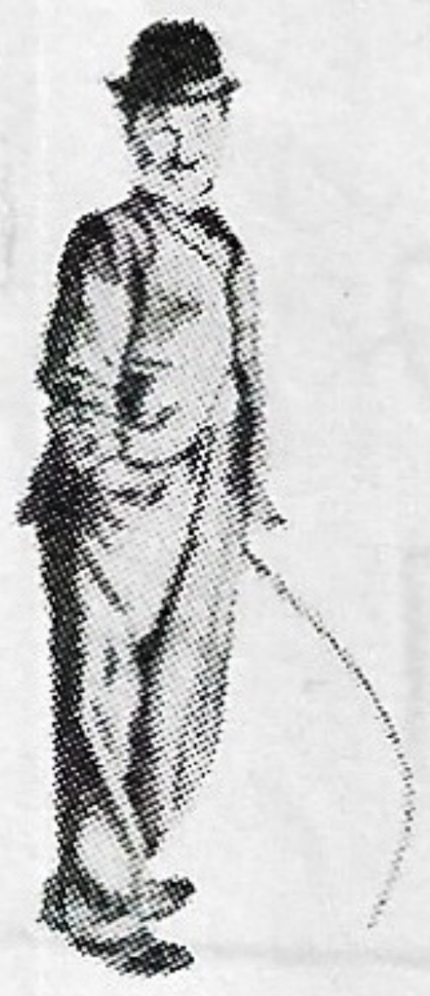

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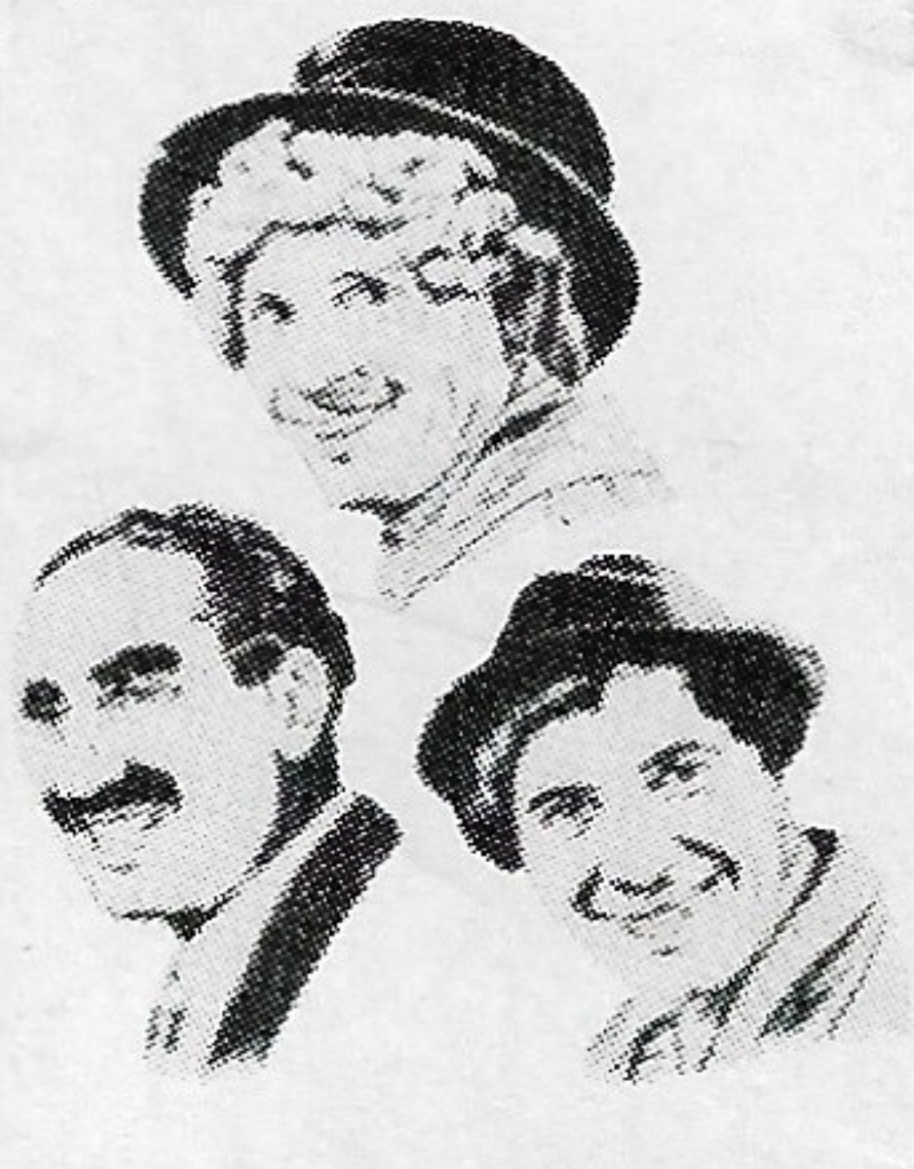

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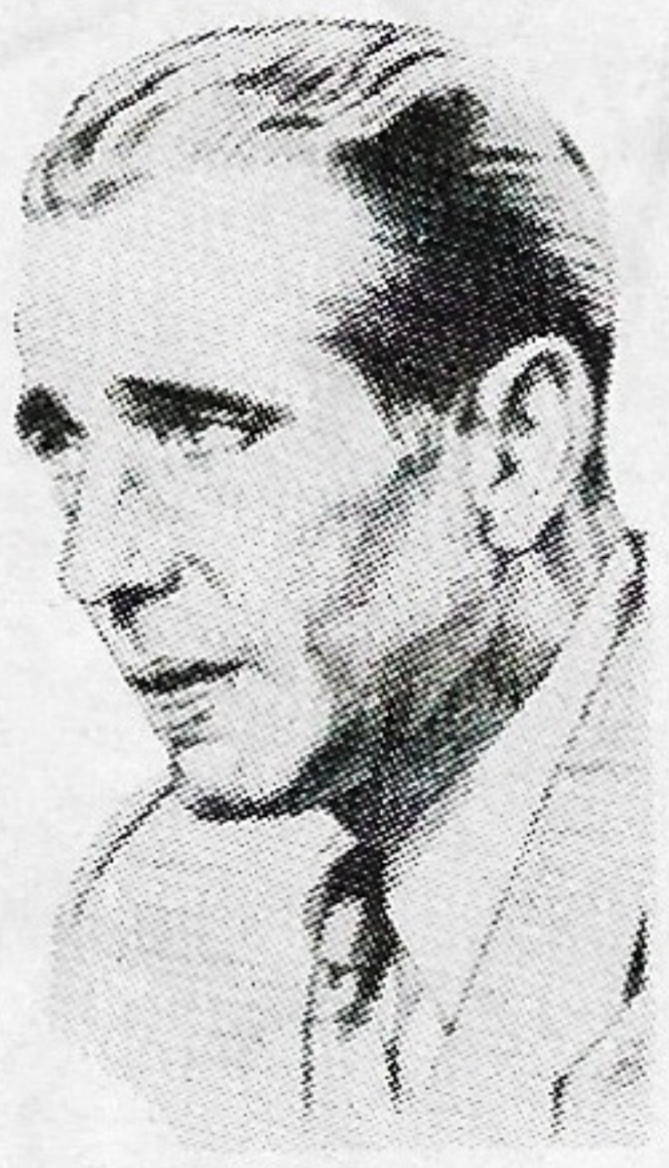

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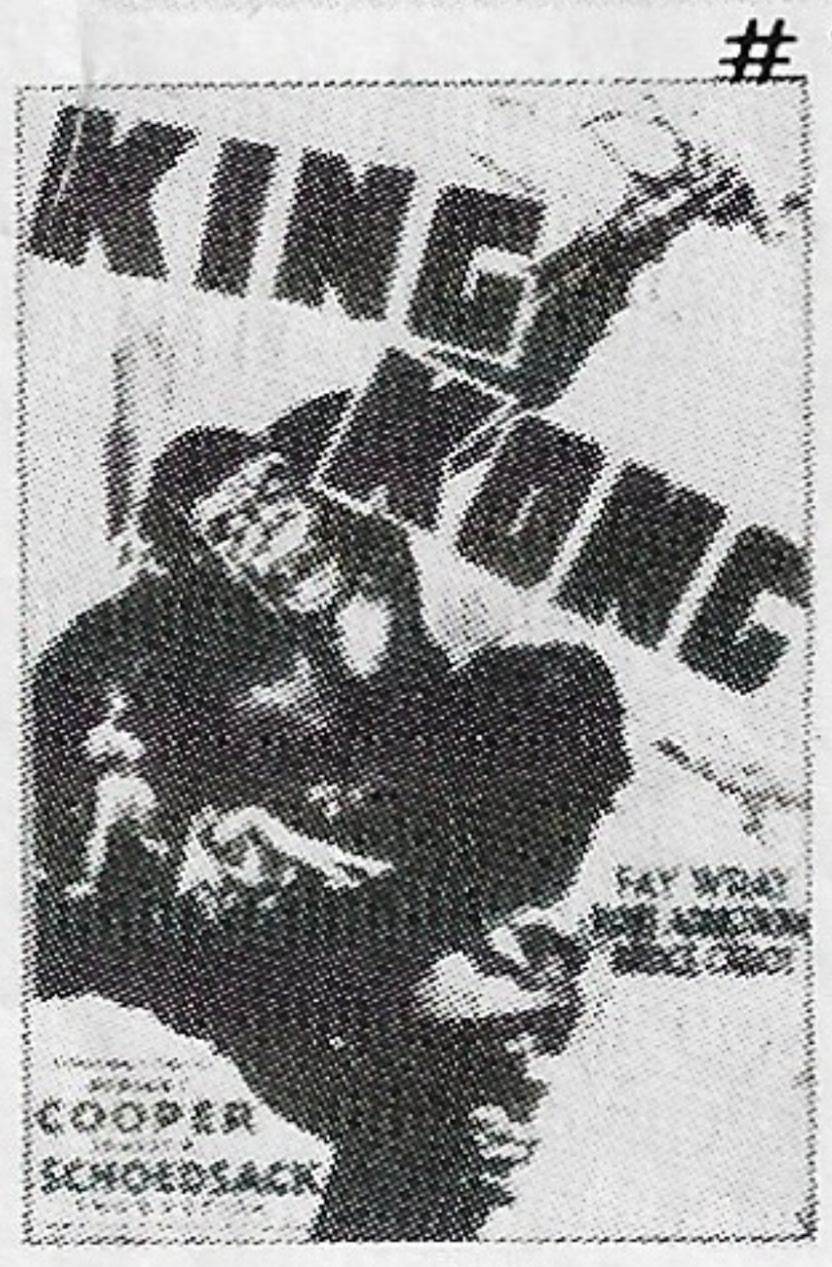
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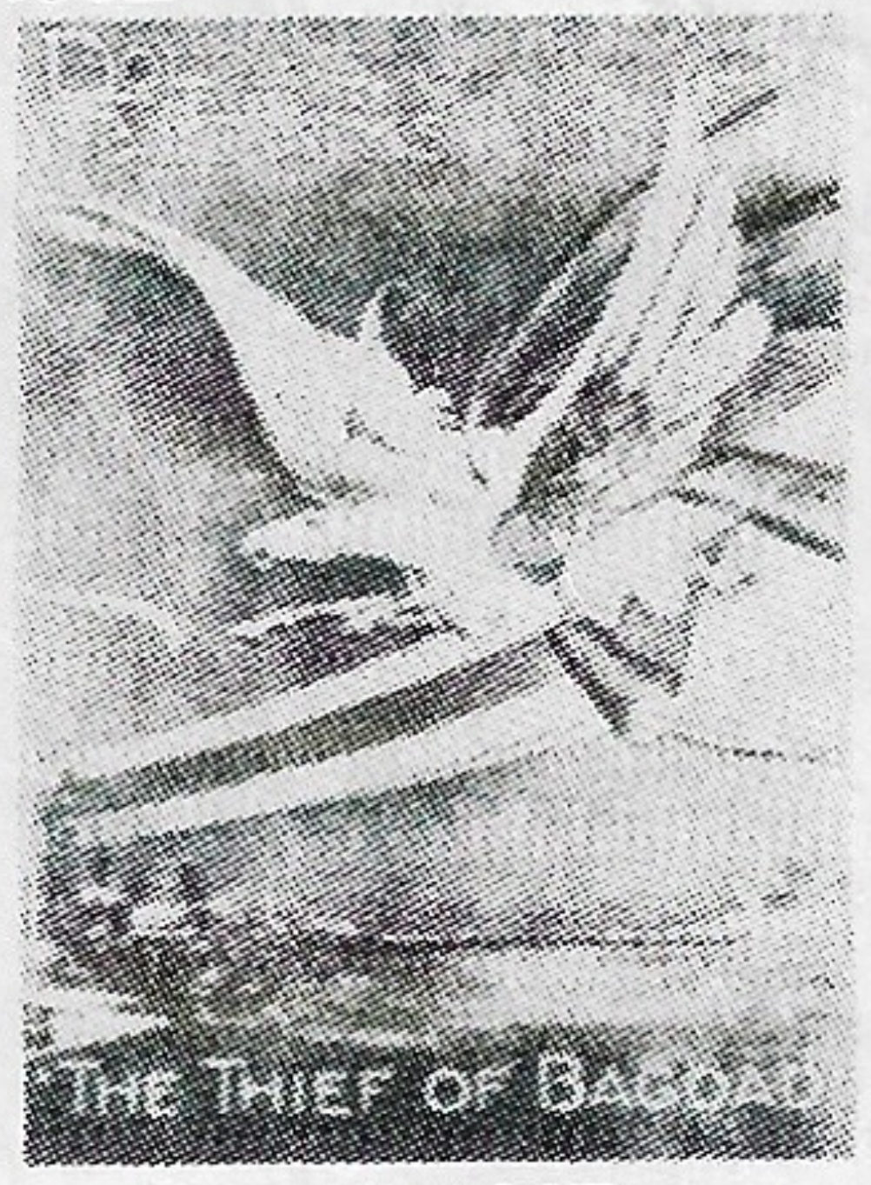
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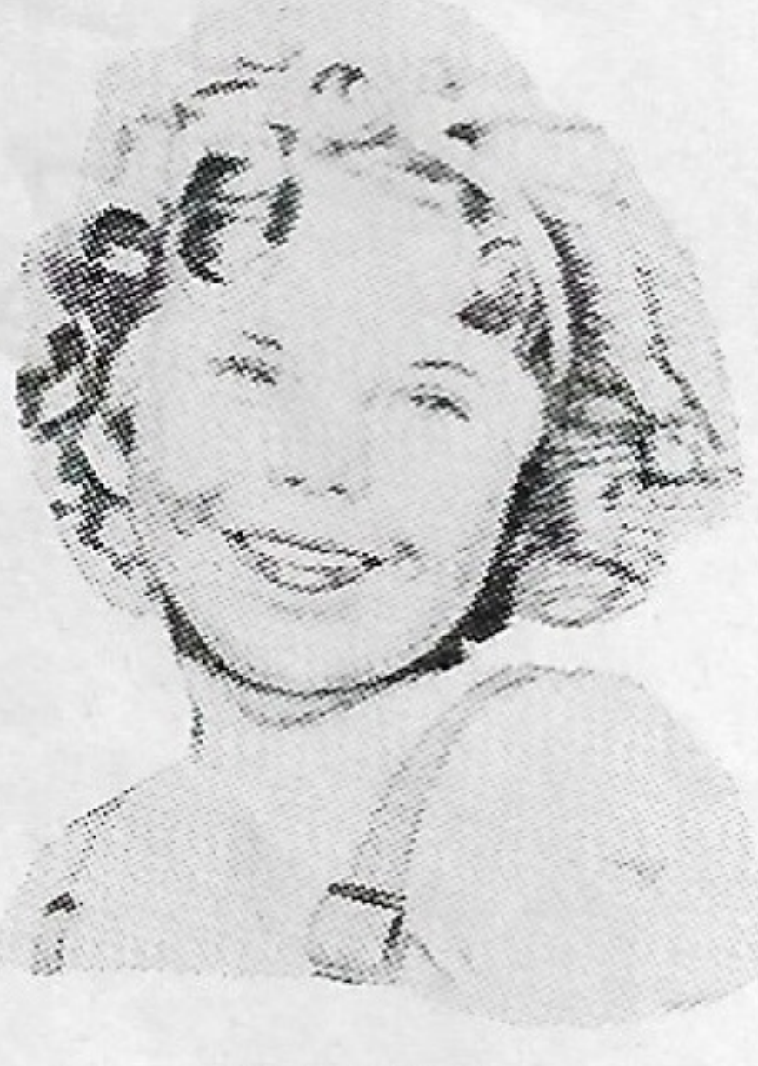

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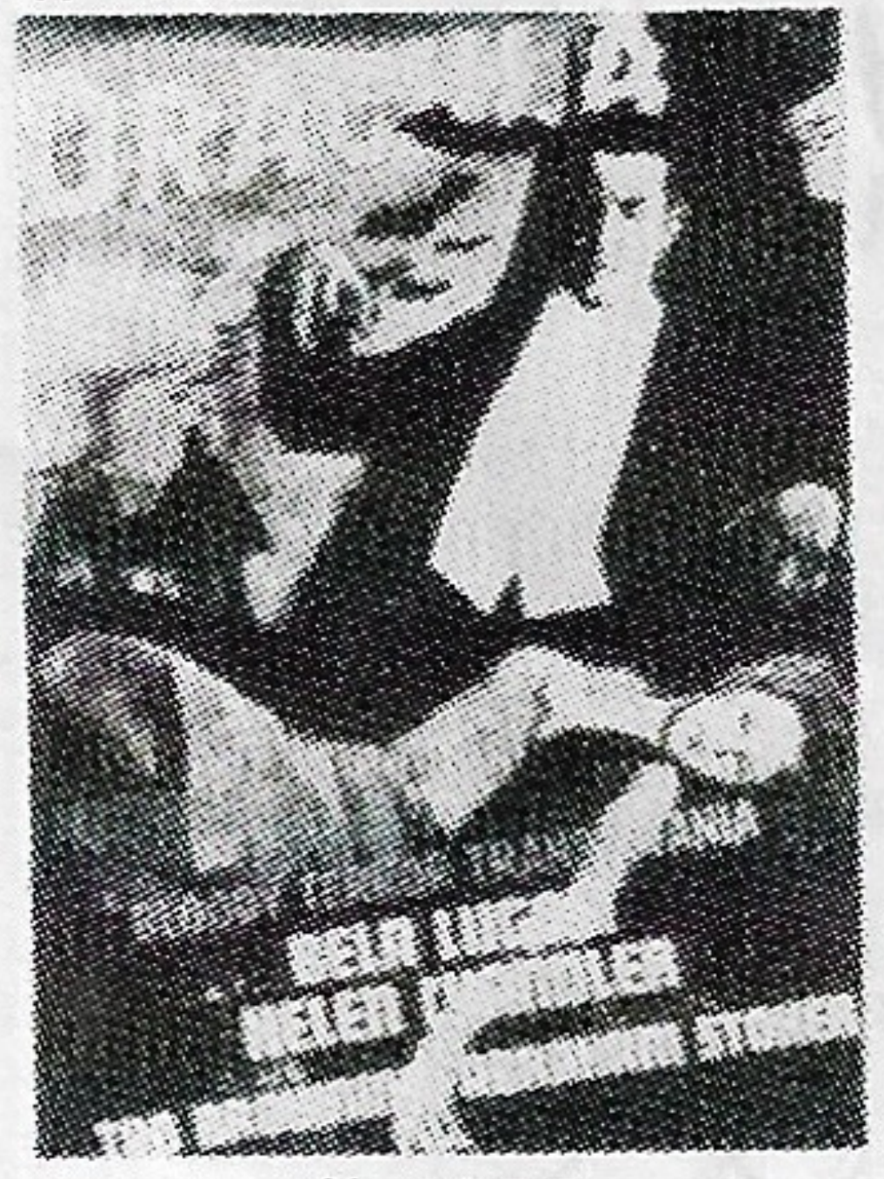
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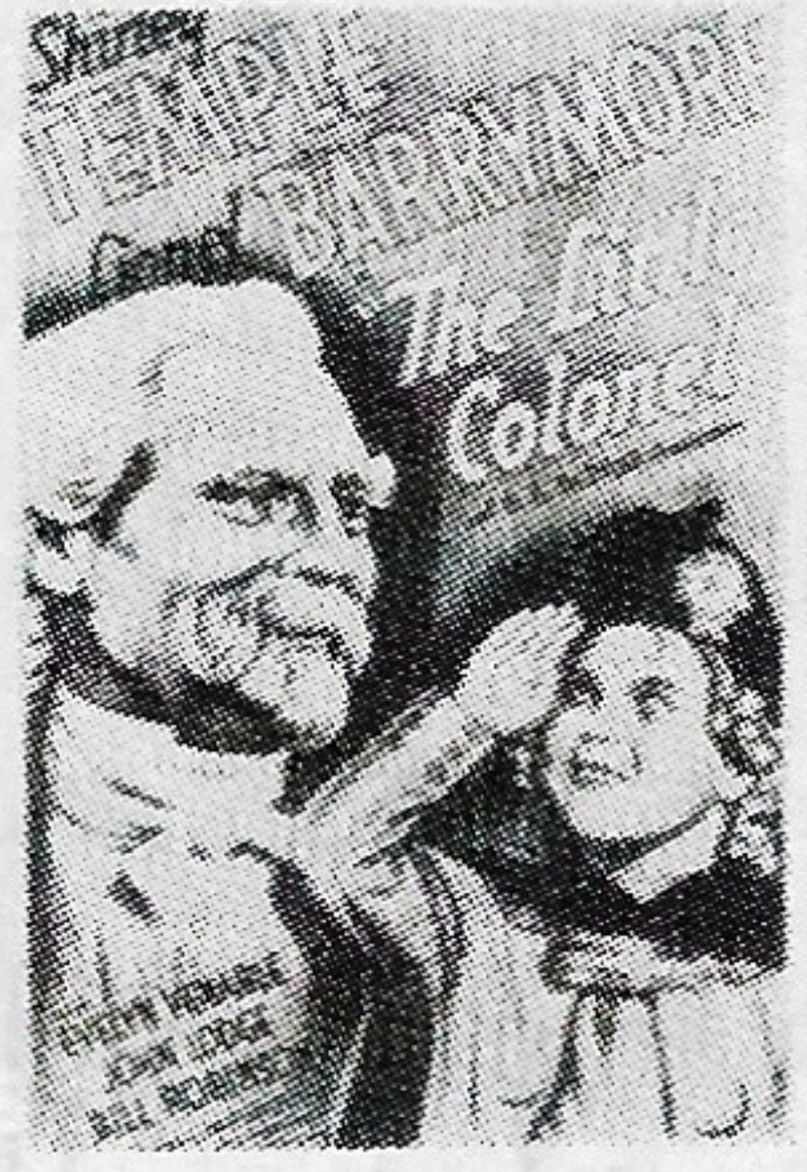
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The Little Colonel

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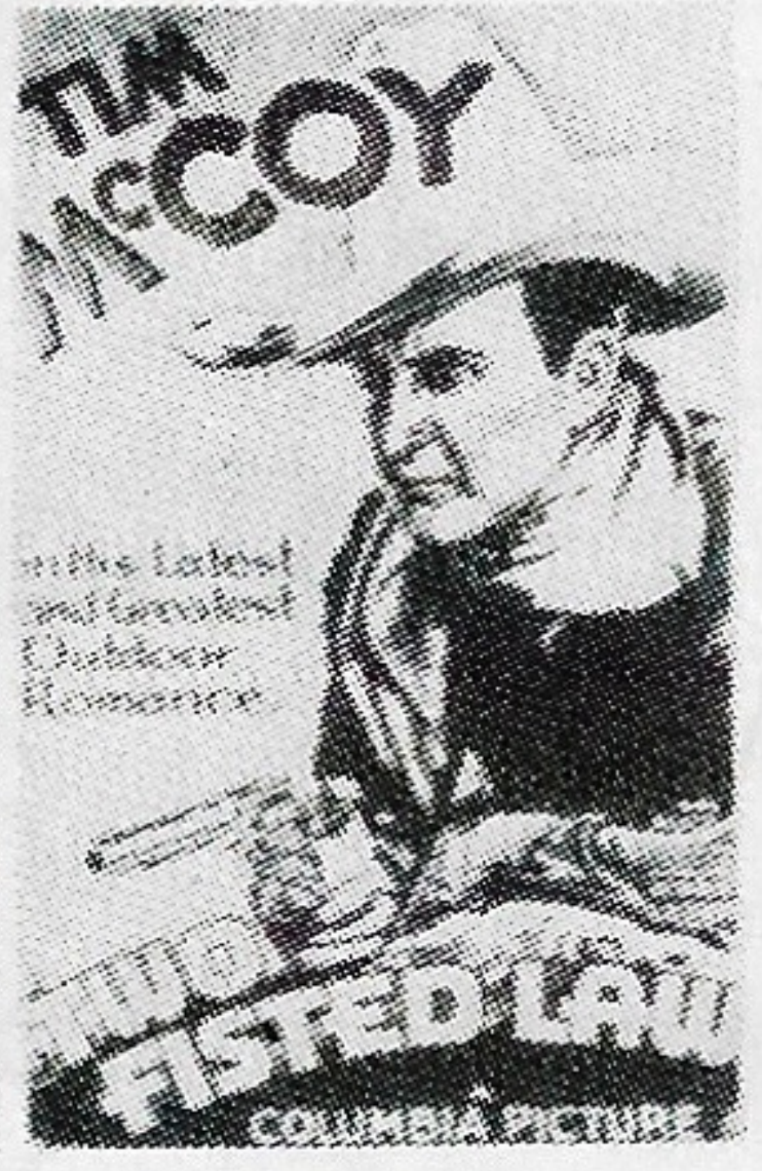
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TWO FISTED LAW
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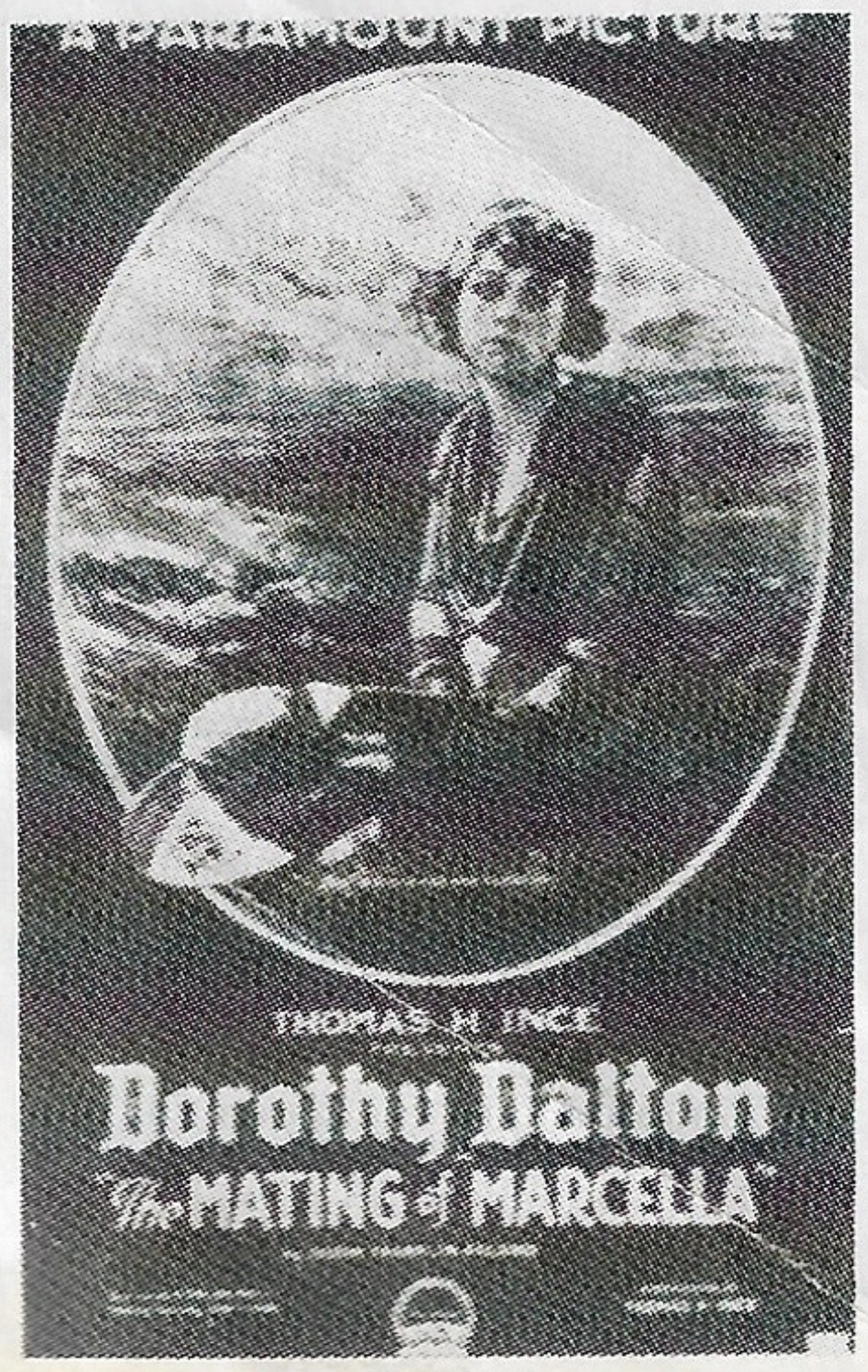
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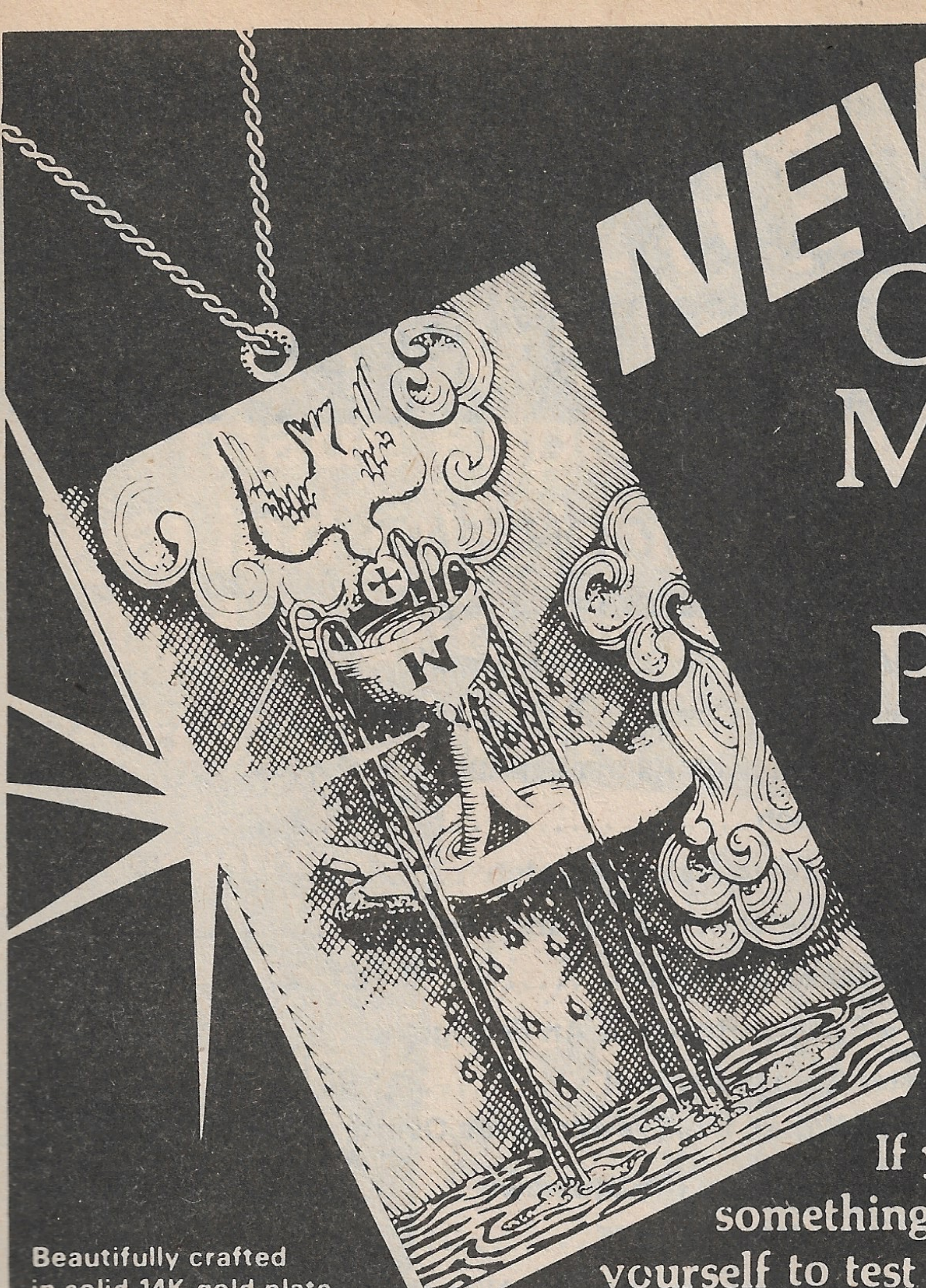

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1977

Number One

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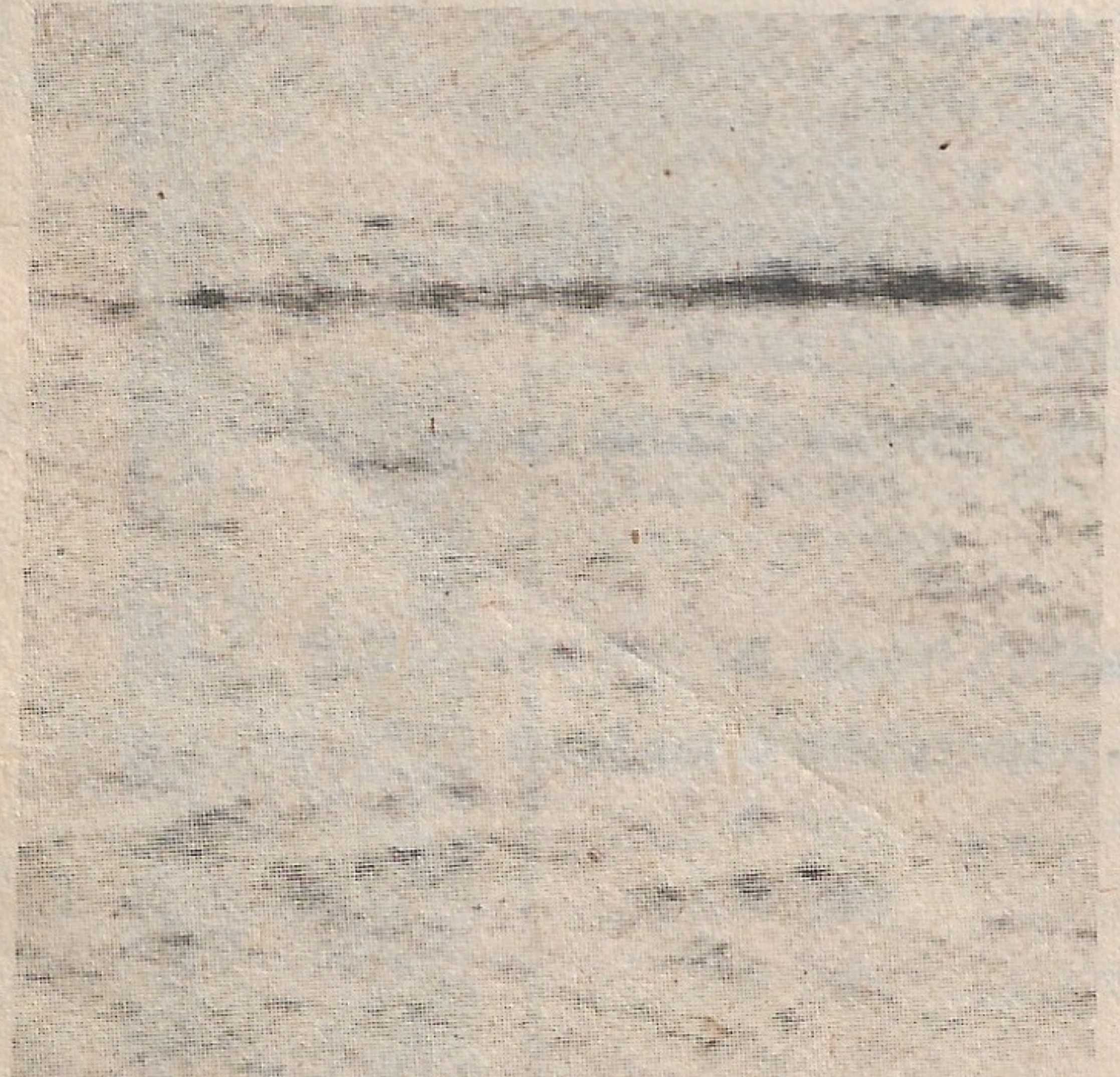
Cover Painting by Joseph J. Zabinski

Fashions Styled for Loch Ness Monster Hunting


A photograph of the "monster", made from the Loch shore.

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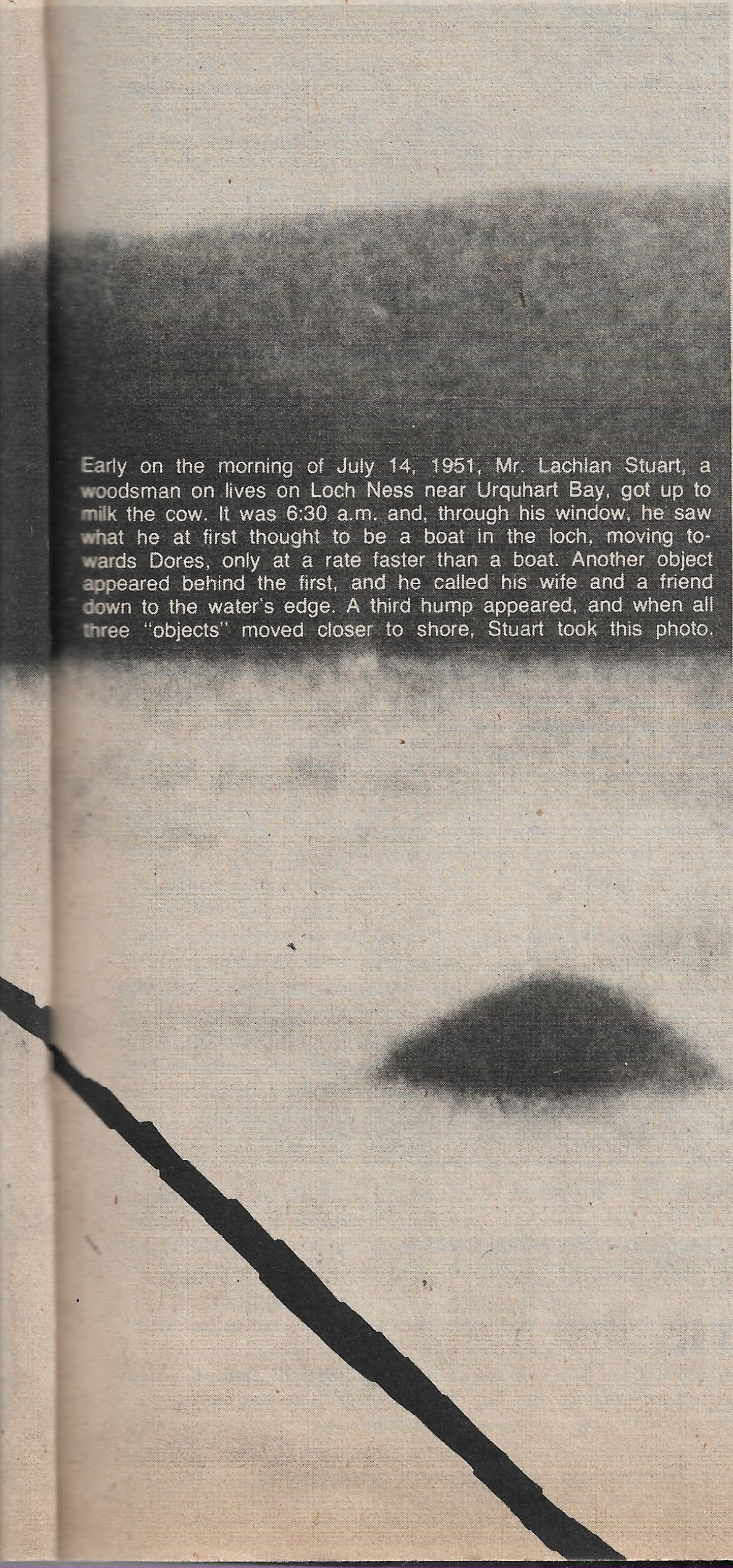
Yes, We Saw Nessie and She's For Real!

Over the Years, Descriptions of Sightings Have Been Both Colorful and Starkly Real

> There is no known limit to the size of some fish. Apparently, they continue to grow until they die. Most are killed early in life by predators. Others die in traffic accidents—on nets and hooks. They are massacred by changes in temperature and chemical composition of sea water, explosions and pollution. Yet lone iconoclasts probably survive their generations and tribes and grow to great size. Perhaps there is a Loch Ness monster, to be proven and give great joy to science, Journalism and Scottish tourism.—James Dugan in his book, *Men Under the Sea.*

Photos by BEAVERBROOK NEWSPAPERS



Early on the morning of July 14, 1951, Mr. Lachlan Stuart, a woodsman on lives on Loch Ness near Urquhart Bay, got up to milk the cow. It was 6:30 a.m. and, through his window, he saw what he at first thought to be a boat in the loch, moving towards Dores, only at a rate faster than a boat. Another object appeared behind the first, and he called his wife and a friend down to the water's edge. A third hump appeared, and when all three "objects" moved closer to shore, Stuart took this photo.

By HERBERT M. FURLOW

The last half of the Twentieth Century, more than half of which has already gone glimmering into the realm of things that were, might well be called the Age of Monsters.

For they seem to be everywhere—in the movies, on the TV screens, under the oceans, wandering "big-footed" through the western mountains, landing in UFOs, appearing and re-appearing in lakes and inland waterways in widely separated areas of the world. But none of these lake-dwelling creatures of weird pedigree, can come even close to matching the fame of the best known monster of them all—Nessie, the photogenic queen of Scotland's fabled Loch Ness, or if you prefer the American usage, Lake Ness.

It has been more than 1,400 years since the Loch Ness monster was first sighted, according to legend, by Saint Columba back in 565 A.D. During the interim, hundreds of witnesses claim to have seen the creature, either moving swimmingly through the loch or waddling along the shores adjacent to that long narrow body of water which, when seen from the air, resembles a canal much more than a lake.

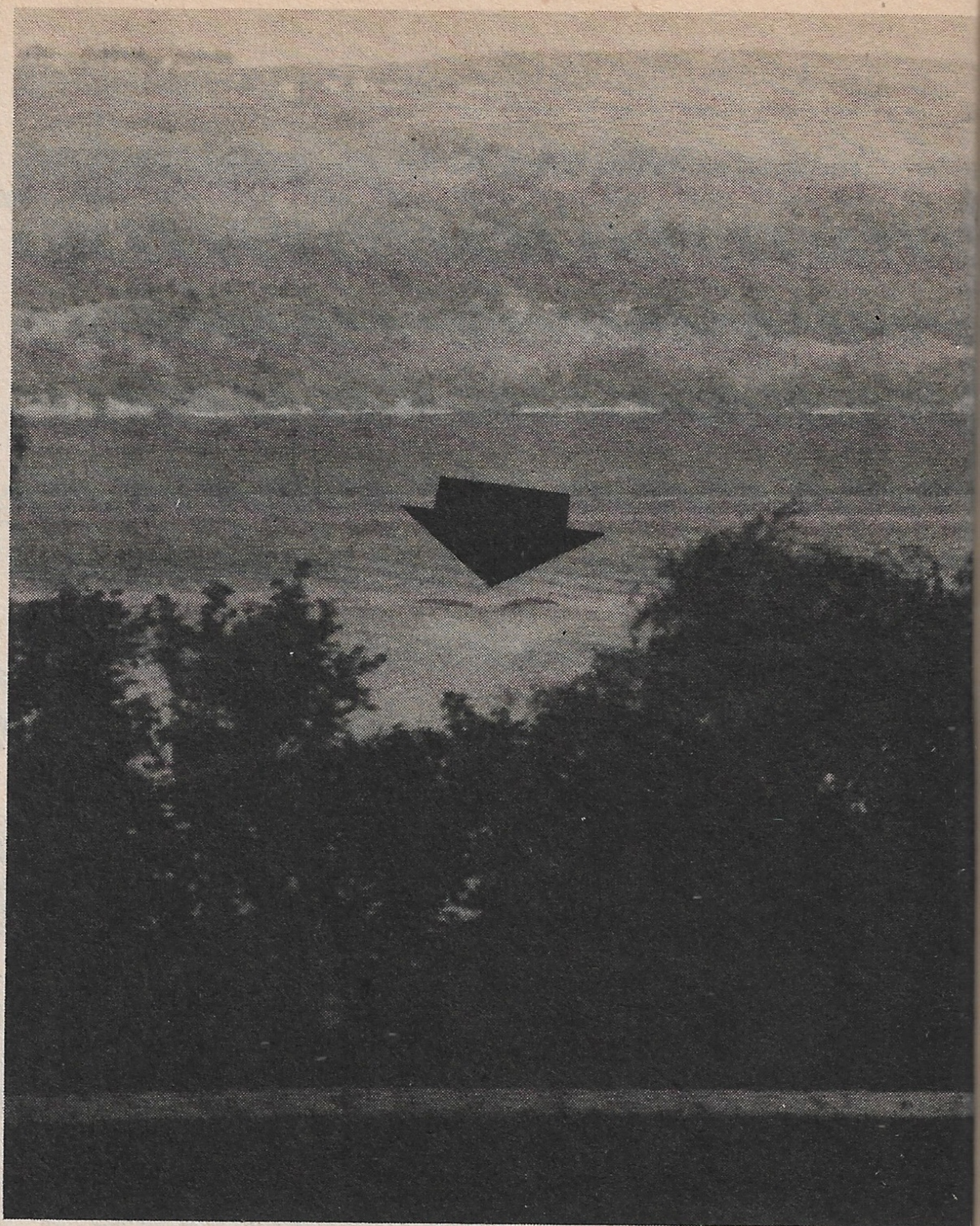
It wasn't until 1933, however, before Nessie began coming into the focus range of modern cameras, carried by thousands of enthusiastic "monster hunters" from far and wide. Leslie Shepard, writing in the foreword to Rupert T. Gould's book, "The Loch Ness Monster" (Citadel Press, Secaucus, N.J., 1976), covered the developments in these words:

"The monster reported in the 1930s has been seen by scores of reputable witnesses. It has been photographed repeatedly, and even filmed. It appears to be about 45 feet long, of which 10 feet is head and neck, 20 feet the body, and fifteen the tail. The head is small and sometimes lifted out of the water on the neck high above the body. The creature has a rough skin, dark brown in color. In traveling, it sometimes appears to contort its body into a series of humps. It can move at speeds of around 13 knots. Sightings and photographic evidence of the Loch Ness monster's existence have continued uninterruptedly, *up to the present day.* The total number of sightings is now over several hundred (and counting). Witnesses in the modern period include Benedictine monks at Fort Augustus Abbey, the Water Baillie of Loch Ness, the County Clerk of Inverness-shire, members of the Inverness police force, a Nobel Prise winner, and various doctors, solicitors, school teachers and civil servants, as well as local farmers and fishermen. Undoubtedly the monster, or one of several monsters, is still there!"

Among the more convincing sightings in recent years were those recorded on film by Mr. Tim Dinsdale, for many years an active member of the Loch Ness Investigation Bureau which had set up a number of motion picture and TV cameras at points around Loch Ness where the monster was known to have frequented.

Dinsdale made his first contact with Nessie on April 23rd, 1960, while driving along the lake shore near the village of Upper Foyers. Seeing and hearing a commotion in the water below the road, he halted his car, took out a pair of binoculars and soon was observing a "large, dark oval shape" moving through the lake, creating ripples in its wake. In his car was a Bolex 16mm movie camera, and taking it in hand, he succeeded in making an action film of the creature's passage through the water.

The films created quite a controversy, possibly one that would have been surpassed only by capture of the monster itself. Still, it was six years later, in 1966, before the Royal Air Force Joint Air Reconnaissance Intelligence Center got around to analyzing Dinsdale's film. The experts eventually concluded that the object on the film was neither a submarine nor a surface craft of any kind,



One day in 1965, Mrs. Rena Thompson, who at that time was a resident of Inverness, saw something moving out on the loch. She rushed out of her home and made a snapshot of it from shore.

saying, "Which leaves the conclusion that it was probably an animate object. Even if the object is relatively flat-bellied, the normal natural body rounding would suggest that it drops at least two feet beneath the water. By deduction, the object would be at least 6 feet wide and 5 feet high." The experts also reported the original hump was 12 to 16 feet long, and moved through the loch at speeds of 7 to 10 miles an hour.

Over the years, an estimated 10,000 sightings of the Loch Ness phenomenon have been *reported,* but barely one-third of these have been *recorded.* Dinsdale's film, and numerous other photographs, both movie and still, have captured the monster's image both above and beneath the lake's surface. And one of the more interesting of these recorded sightings occurred in 1973. A long-time member of the Loch Ness Investigation Bureau (LNIB), Ron Mercer, issued the report which was published in Roy P. Mackal's book, "The Monsters of Loch Ness" (The Swallow Press, Chicago, 1976). Mercer gave the details of an interview with R. Richard Jenkyns of Pointclair, Invermoriston, Inverness-shire:

"Mr. Jenkyns is English and a retired farmer. Having taken his holidays in Loch Ness area for many years, he and his wife eventually purchased a house which is situated on Loch Ness about 12 yards above surface level. On Saturday, November 10th, 1973, at about 11:45 a.m., Mr. Jenkyns was trying to start a tractor which had been stuck for some weeks on a piece of rough ground sloping down to the loch's edge. . . . It was a cold, slightly damp day, with a strong southwest wind on the loch's surface, giving a heavy swell with waves two to two-and-a-half feet. The tractor's starter did not have a silencer and there was an explosive noise from it, so loud that Mrs. Jenkyns heard it in the house some 50 yards away. . .

"Immediately after the noise disturbed the peace Mr. Jenkyns heard a very loud splash, which he described as an 'impact splash', as if something heavy had been thrown into the water. It was a single noise and was not followed by any further splashing. Mr. Jenkyns got down from the tractor, walked around it, and took a good look along the shore line. He went back to the tractor and, two minutes later, noticed in the water some 45 yards off shore, a ring of concentric circles which were obvious despite the waves. Then he observed an animal emerge quietly and smoothly in a northeast direction, parallel to the shore, then submerge 'on its tail,' i.e., straight down. . . . The head and neck were slate black, quite rigid and about 9 inches in diameter. Mr. Jenkyns observed a slit mouth, also what appeared to be some large scales on top of the head but not the neck, and, above the mouth, was an eye or possibly a vent. The eye was quite tiny in proportion to the mouth. . . . There was no sign of any fins, horns, or other appurtenances."

One of 1934's famed sightings was recorded on still film by London physician, Dr. Kenneth Wilson, who spotted the monster arising from the loch's waters during a motor trip in Scotland. And that same year, two British publications, *Nature* and the *Scotsman,* published accounts of a

A Prehistoric Animal

An ever mounting accumulation of scientific evidence indicates that the Loch Ness Monster is actually a prehistoric animal, one which somehow found itself land-locked in the Scottish lake before the dawn of history. The animal, which eyewitnesses claim now lives in Loch Ness, could well be the descendant of prehistoric creatures that entered northern Scotland's waters during the Ice Age. The theory of the "land-locked prehistoric monster" has been given credence by many zoologists, paleontologists and scientists—and who can forget the manner in which A. Conan Doyle so skillfully brought to life those prehistoric monsters on a plateau in South America's upper Amazon Basin—where many still claim, dinosaurs and their kin exist, even to this day!

sighting near Glendoe Pier. First, as it was reported in *Nature:*

"On July 4th, 1934, a worker at Glendoe sawmill observed the creature emerge from the loch; as it emerged propelled by flippers, five humps were seen, then twelve distinct humps as it wormed its way ashore; head smaller and thicker than a horse's, neck heavily made, body fully 30 feet long, but not very thick. It was seen to feed upon weeds and water plants growing on the shore and, as the monastery clock struck 10 a.m., it wriggled back into the loch, having been under observation for an hour."

And in the *Scotsman* on July 6th was published this first person account of the same sighting, but with a difference:

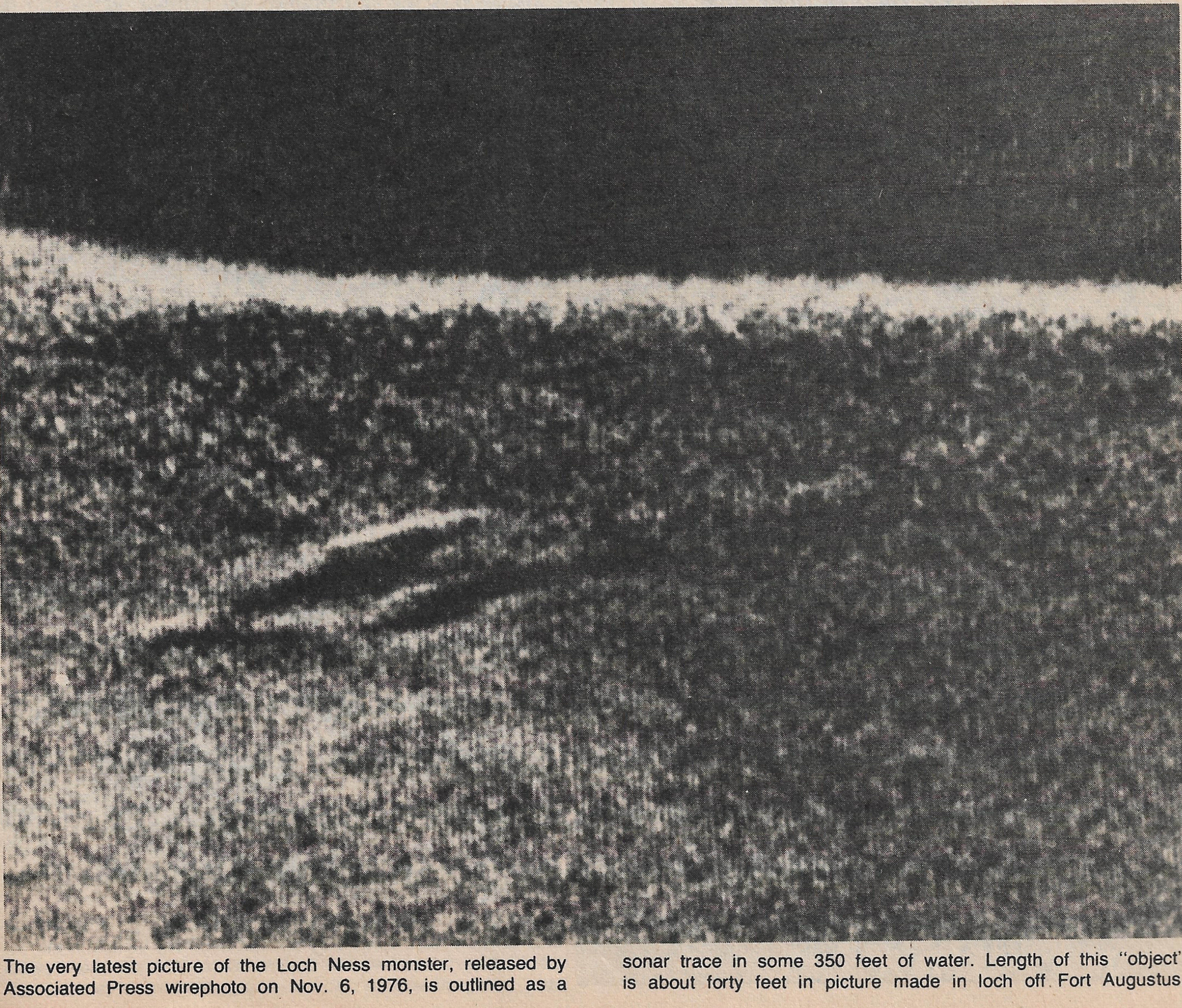
"I was working on the Glendoe Estate about 9 a.m., and from a small hill overlooking the loch I saw the calm surface suddenly broken by a most amazing beast. It was at least 30 feet long, and as its length continued to emerge, I could distinctly see a number of humps. I was looking almost straight down on it when it first appeared and I counted twelve humps, each a foot out of the water. It moved off toward Glendoe Pier, and on one occasion lifted its head and neck out of the water and shook itself. I then saw something extending for about 4 feet from the head down the neck, dark colored, rather like a mane. The day was so clear I could distinguish the drops of water as they fell when the monster shook itself. It reached Glendoe Pier and stretched its neck out of the water where a stream enters the loch. It did not actually come ashore but seemed to be hunting about the edge, and I cannot see how it could move as it did without using flippers or feet."

Another sighting, one among many as the years progressed, occurred on August 20th, 1952, while Mrs. Greta Finlay and her son were camping by the loch not far from Aldourie Castle. It was about noon when Mrs. Finlay noticed an unusual splashing in the water near the shore. Then, about 25 yards distant, she caught sight of what appeared to be a "smaller" type monster. Author Constance Whyte, in her book, "More Than A Monster" (London 1957), gave Mrs. Whyte's report on the incident:

"I was so taken up with the strange appearance of the head and neck that I didn't examine the rest of the animal at all closely. There were two or three humps and the total length visible would be about 15 feet. The neck was held erect, and where it met the water it enlarged to join a bulky body. The head and neck together were 2 to 2½ feet in length, the head alone being about 6 inches long and about the same width as the neck. What astonished me, apart from the head's hideous appearance, were the two 6-inch-long projections from it (horns?), each with a blob on the end. The skin looked black and shiny, reminding me of a snail more than anything."

Perhaps one of the more vivid descriptions of a sighting was published in the U.S.A. in 1957 by *Harper's Magazine*. The article described, in first person, the experience of Mr. David Slorach who witnessed the Loch Ness creature while traveling in Scotland on business. The date was February 4th, 1954, and the time early morning. Slorach was driving from Fort William to Inverness, and had reached a point beyond Fort Augustus where. . . .

"The road curves sharply, rises and falls, so I had little chance to admire the view of Loch Ness, now on my right;



The very latest picture of the Loch Ness monster, released by Associated Press wirephoto on Nov. 6, 1976, is outlined as a sonar trace in some 350 feet of water. Length of this "object" is about forty feet in picture made in loch off Fort Augustus.

Two Japanese skin divers, Kou Toyohhara and Nobuo Sugiuch, get set to dive into Loch Ness near Drumnadrochit in their own effort to locate the ever elusive monster. Date: October 1, 1973.

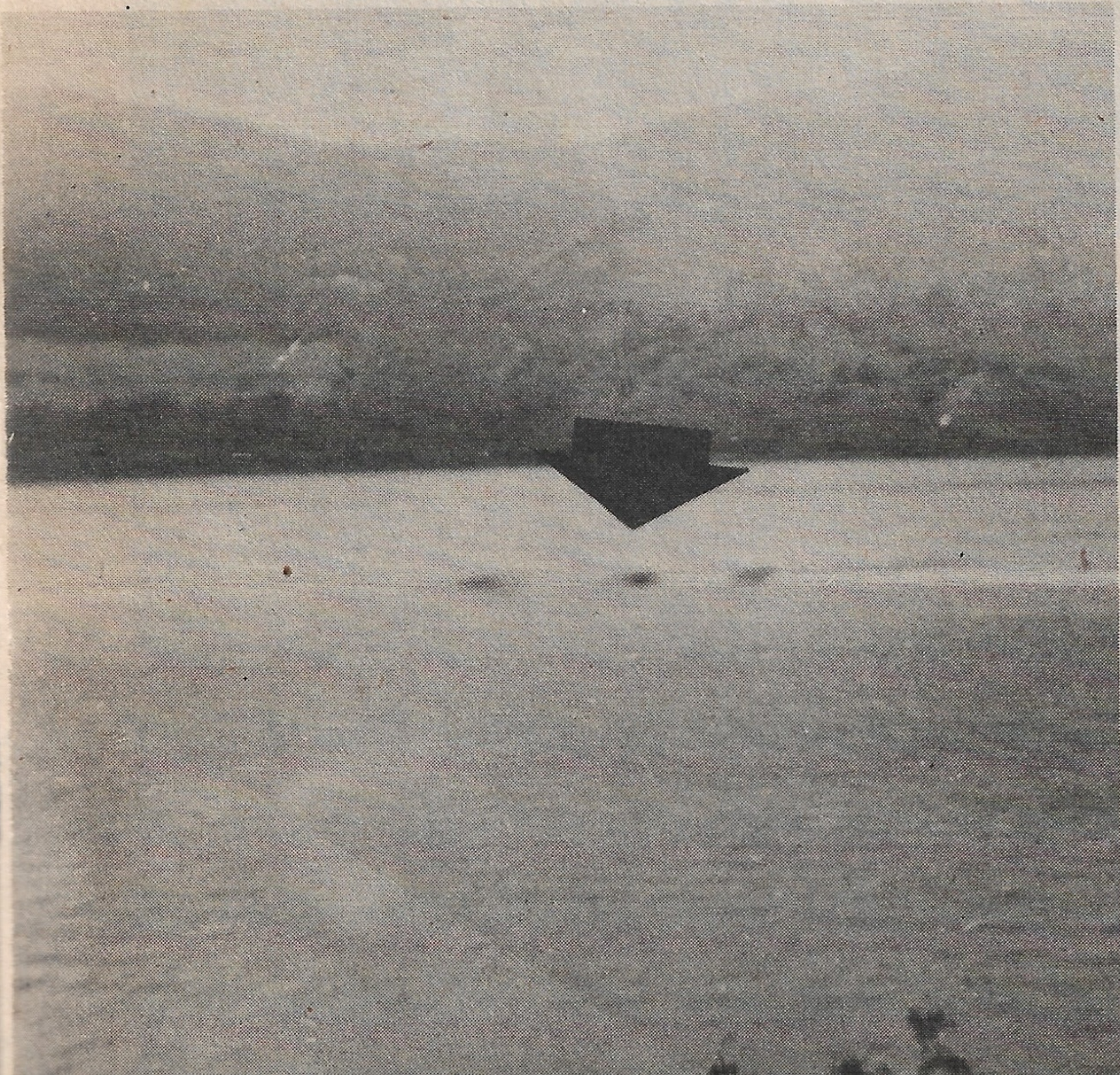
but in occasional side glances, I observed that the surface of the Loch was smooth and that I could see the far shore quite clearly. Then ahead of me, at a considerable distance, I noticed an odd object in the water. It was about 400 yards from the shore, and from where I was it looked like a rounded body on stilts, as if two storks were standing on a rock in the water.

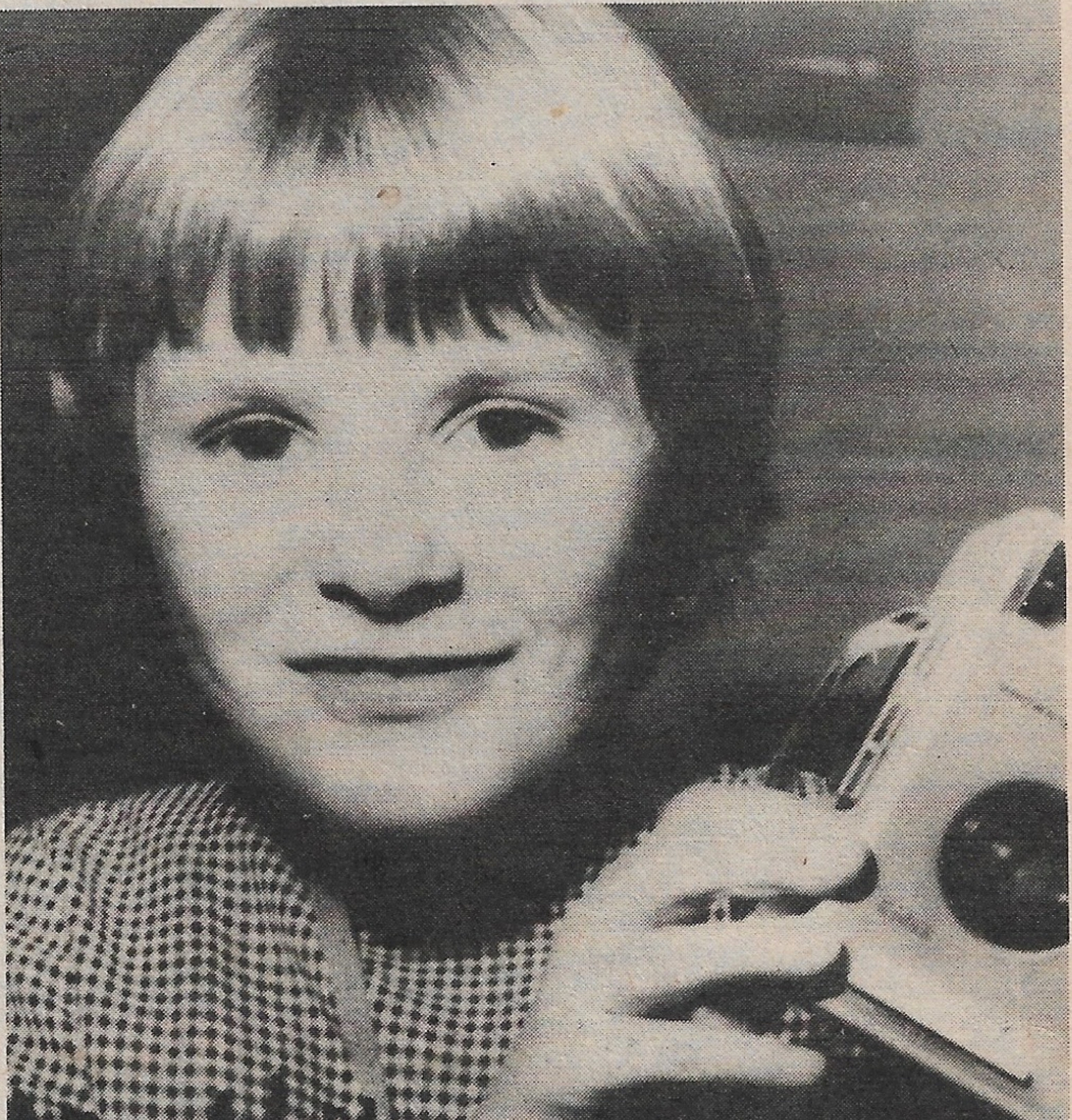
"The shape struck me as odd, and I kept glancing at it. As I came closer, the form changed its appearance. Now it looked like a tree trunk sticking up about three feet out of the water and surmounted by a boss or enlarged piece. Its shape now reminded me of a comic ornament popular at one time—a china cat with a long neck. The thing ahead of me looked exactly like the neck and head part. One black floppy "ear" fell over where the eye might be and four black streaks ran down the "neck". It was these I had previously mistaken for the legs of storks. The rest of the object was a curious dead white colour.

"A few moments later I threw another glance in the direction of this amusing looking object and noticed that some yards nearer to me lay a second dark object like a barrel or buoy. By now, I was nearly abreast of both objects, and at the speed I was travelling I could give them only a hasty look. Suddenly out of the corner of my eye, I caught a glimpse of movement, and checked my speed to look again. The object in front and the barrel-shaped object were travelling through the water at great speed, throwing up a huge wave behind. I slowed to around 35 mph, but the object raced ahead and was soon out of sight behind a clump of trees."

Apparently, it was only after he had reached the landmark of Castle Urquhart did Slorach realize that he may have seen the Loch Ness monster. And all the while, there on his car's back seat, was loaded camera which never went into action!

Meantime, the search goes on. . . . ☐





Seven-year-old Lindsey Elliott was vacationing with her parents at Loch Ness when they spotted three big humps in the water. Lindsey unlimbered her Brownie Becta 127 and made photo, later telling newsmen, "It was a big creature of some kind."

Photos by BEAVERBROOK NEWSPAPERS

NESSIE, QUEEN OF THE SCOTTISH MONSTERS

An Object Came Slowly to the Surface And I Cried, 'Look, It's the Monster!' I Grabbed My Camera and Took A Picture, Just As the Monster Swam A Few Yards and Disappeared. . . .

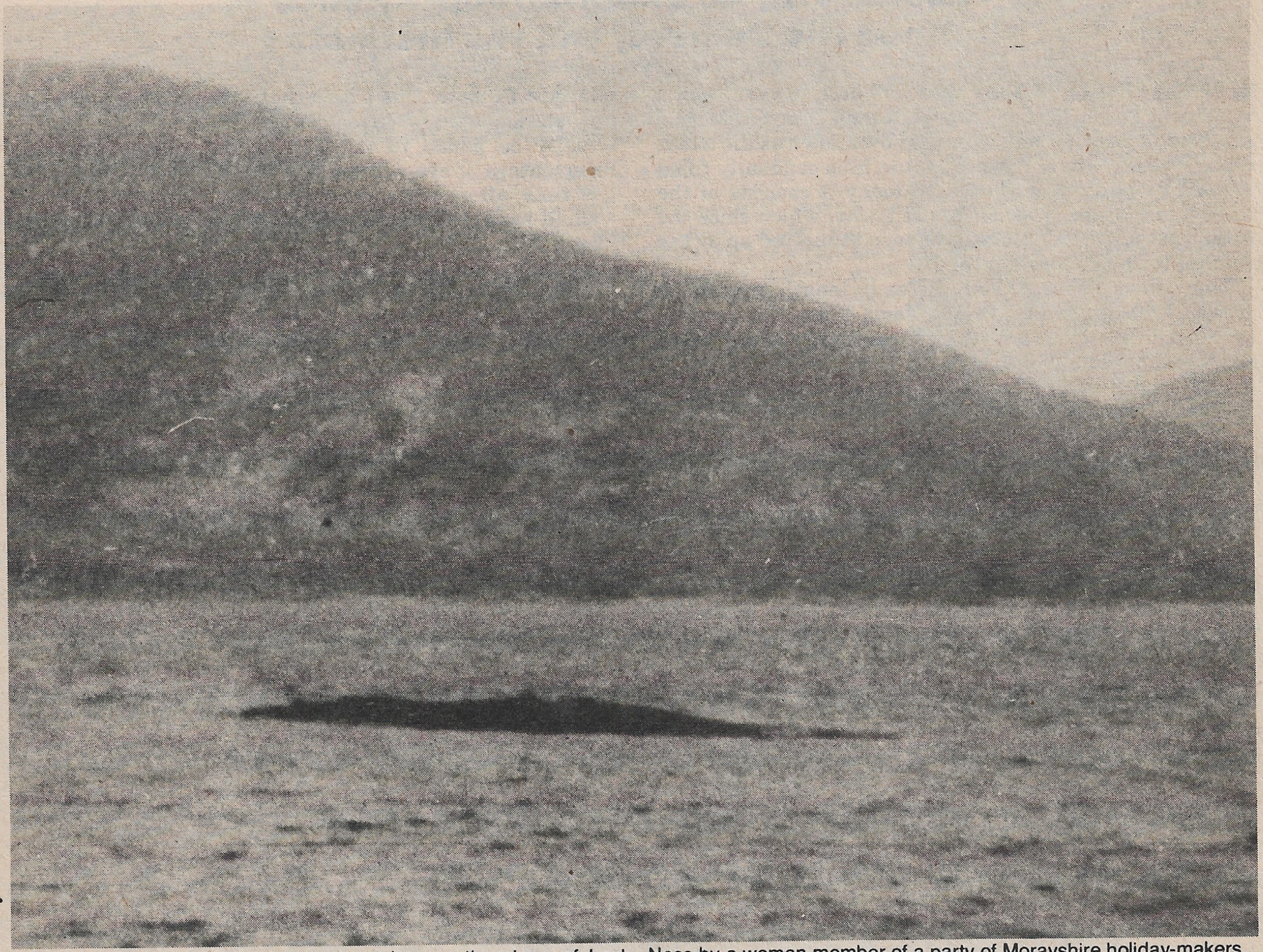


Photo by BEAVERBROOK NEWSPAPERS

This is an enlargement of snapshot taken on the shore of Loch Ness by a woman member of a party of Morayshire holiday-makers. The hump on the water is the object which, she states, rose to the surface, swam a few yards, and disappeared. Fort Augustus lies beyond the hill shown here on extreme right of photograph.

By LONDON DAILY EXPRESS Correspondent

FORT AUGUSTUS, Scotland, Sunday, June 10, 1934—Members of a Moray holiday party believe that they saw the Loch Ness Monster at Fort Augustus today.

"We were always doubtful about the truth of any monster existing in Loch Ness," one of them told me, "but now I have no doubt that there is some living thing in the loch which scientists have yet been unable to explain.

"I happened to gaze across the loch, and I was amazed to see an object slowly come to the surface. It made very little motion.

"I cried, 'Look, it's the monster.' Immediately I got my small camera and took a snap, which shows beyond all doubt that something does exist in the loch.

"I had just finished when the monster gradually swam for a few yards and gracefully disappeared. It made no splashing, and although we waited, it did not reappear."

Another told me there was no doubt about the matter. The monster appeared like a black shining object or an upturned boat.

"From my judgment," he said, "I think it would be between fifteen and eighteen feet in length. I saw it from about 200 yards and can testify that it really is a living creature.

"There are two distinct humps, and from my position, I believe it would be about two feet out of the water.

"At that part the loch is in the neighborhood of 600 feet in depth. If it was a trunk of a tree it would be continually seen, but it disappears.

"Whatever it is I cannot say, but I may state that a trunk of a tree cannot swim, and the Monster can." □

Frank Searle:

A Continuing

While Others Search with Electronic Equipment, An Ex-Paratrooper Relies Upon His Camera, and His Instincts

By FRANK SEARLE ■ More than 250 million years ago, a movement of this earth's crust on a fault line, formed the great rift across Scotland which is now known as the Great Glen. Water running down from the hills gradually filled the deeper parts of this rift and today it consists of the three main Lochs, Ness, Oich and Lochy, which since the middle of the 19th Century have been connected up by the man-built Caledonian Canal.

This waterway, some sixty miles in length, provides a passage for small craft from the North Sea to the Atlantic Ocean, thus avoiding the very dangerous sea-route round the North of Scotland. Loch Ness is by far the largest of the three Lochs, being nearly twenty-four miles in length, just under a mile wide, and with an area of twenty-one and three-quarter square miles. It is not the largest lake in Great Britain, but it contains much more water than any other British Lake. It has been estimated that Loch Ness contains something like 265,000 million cubic feet of water.

The deepest part of the Loch is opposite the John Cobb Memorial, 980 feet, and the mean depth of 433 feet is deeper than the mean depth of the North Sea. Some 40 yards from the beach on either side, the bed of the Loch drops away giving a series of underwater rock faces, ledges and huge overhands. Loch Ness is fed by eight rivers, sixty major streams and hundreds of small streams all running down from the surrounding hills. It is free from pollution, but the rivers and streams wash down millions of tiny peat particles which make visibility in the water almost non-existent. At around 30 feet below the surface, infra-red penetrates only about 5 yards. Thus, research with mini-submarines, skin divers and underwater cameras is useless.

For many hundreds of years there have been reports of large, strange animals being seen breaking the surface of this huge, dark stretch of water. The first written records were made some fourteen hundred years ago when Adamnan, 9th Bishop of Iona, writing a biography of St. Columba, makes reference to water monsters being seen by people living by Loch Ness.

Much has been written about the Loch Ness Monsters. A little fact, some supposition and very much sheer rubbish. Even now, as we rapidly approach the end of the twentieth century, in an age which has seen men land on the moon, all we really know about Loch Ness is that its murky waters contain some living creatures which are far larger than anything that would be expected in a Scottish fresh-water lake. Normally, the largest thing in a land-locked stretch of water like this would be a 60 lbs. salmon, which is about 5 feet long, or a pike or an otter of the same size.

But in Loch Ness, thousands of people have seen a creature break the surface which is certainly 30 feet, maybe more, in length. An animal 30 feet long is not the largest thing on this planet, but it is certainly very large when compared to a 5 feet salmon or an otter. All that can really be added to this is the fact that a very high percentage of eye-witness reports over a very long period of time, all give the same description. Something with a small head, long tapering neck, a huge, bulky body and a long tail. There is some evidence to suggest that the creatures have four large flippers or paddles.

How did these strange creatures get into Loch Ness? Although we have established that the Great Glen was formed millions of years ago, geologists believe that Loch Ness itself was open to the North Sea as recently as seven-and-a-half thousand years ago. And that, set against pre-historic times, is a very short time indeed. Thus it must be accepted that these animals were coming to and from the North Sea using the Loch as a feeding or breeding ground, as many large sea-creatures use the Scandinavian Fjords. There was a local land upheaval in the area where the town of Inverness now stands and some of the creatures were trapped.

Some marine biologists have given fourteen as being the minimum number that would be required to maintain a species. They are, of course, working on the assumption that the Loch Ness animals behave the same as things they have studied. They could be right or wrong. But we have to accept someone's figures before we can start any kind of discussion. Of course, we wouldn't be left with the bare fourteen. On the other hand there cannot be a large number of the beasts or they would surely be seen more often. Perhaps it would be safe to think of between twenty-five and thirty. Some writers have used the expression "a breeding herd." I think it much more likely that the creatures in Loch Ness would be split into three or four small families, each keeping more or less to its own part of the Loch.

There have been quite a few fairly reliable reports of two animals being seen together and one good report of three which the witness thought to be two large ones and a small one. But to my knowledge, there has never been a reported huge disturbance that might indicate a "herd" or "shoal" of the creatures.

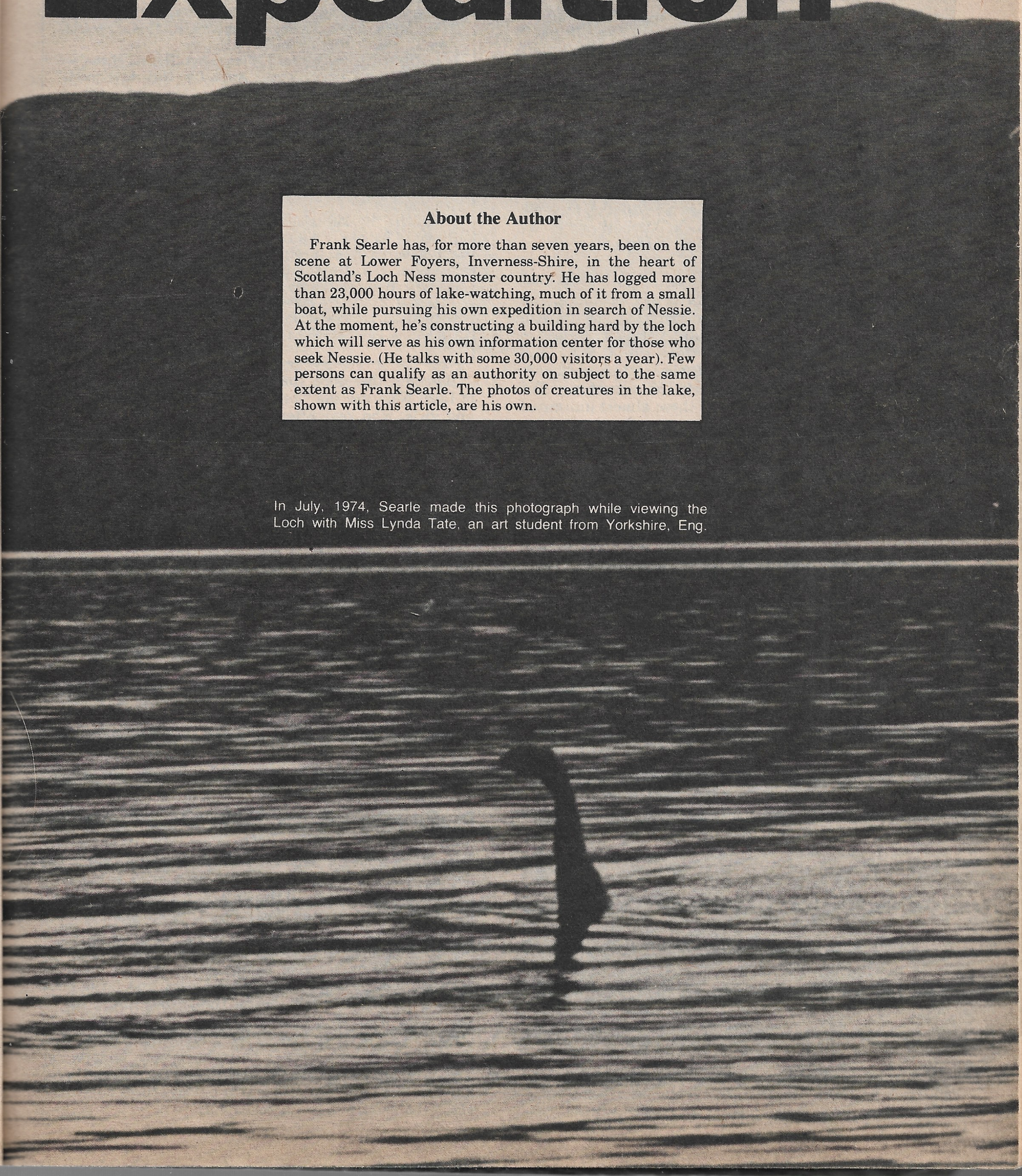
There is no doubt that the Loch Ness animals very closely resemble a prehistoric creature called a Plesiosaur. These creatures were known to have lived in the Northern Hemisphere, and several skeletons have been found in the British Isles. There is one on display in the Natural History Museum in London, and the latest one was discovered in a chalk pit near Peterborough in England in September 1973. So it is possible that the Loch Ness Monsters are descended from, or closely related to the prehistoric Plesiosaur.

Over the years there have been many reports of strange sightings in the North Sea and North Atlantic. Most of these have been made by seamen, but since the end of

Expedition

About the Author

Frank Searle has, for more than seven years, been on the scene at Lower Foyers, Inverness-Shire, in the heart of Scotland's Loch Ness monster country. He has logged more than 23,000 hours of lake-watching, much of it from a small boat, while pursuing his own expedition in search of Nessie. At the moment, he's constructing a building hard by the loch which will serve as his own information center for those who seek Nessie. (He talks with some 30,000 visitors a year). Few persons can qualify as an authority on subject to the same extent as Frank Searle. The photos of creatures in the lake, shown with this article, are his own.



In July, 1974, Searle made this photograph while viewing the Loch with Miss Lynda Tate, an art student from Yorkshire, Eng.

World War II, there have been several made by scientists working with the fishing industry. And, in more than a few of these reports, we hear of "a small head, long neck, large body". There have also been similar reports from lakes in Canada, Finland and Russia. A quick glance at the map of the World will show that Canada, the North Atlantic, Scotland, the North Sea, Finland and Russia are pretty much in line. And remembering that only a little over seven thousand years ago, Loch Ness was open to the sea, there seems to be a definite tie-up.

Loch Ness sightings have only become more widely publicized because, since good roads were built in 1933 there has been easy access to the area. The other lakes from which reports come from time to time are in more remote areas. Reading through some of the books that have been written about the Loch Ness Monsters, one gets the impression that quite a lot of research has been carried out. Unfortunately, this is totally untrue! And in making that statement, I am, of course, referring to serious dedicated research.

For eleven years, the Loch Ness Phenomena Investigation Bureau operated on the Loch. Founded by naturalist, Sir Peter Scott, and Conservative Member of Parliament, Mr. David James, the Bureau has been written up by some authors, notably Tim Dinsdale, Nick Witchell and F. W. Holiday (all ex-Bureau members) as a big investigation center.

But any investigation was very fruitless indeed and, over the last three or four years of its existence, the camera-watching was almost non-existent. The Bureau received a Grant from the local authorities, sponsorship from many sources, especially from the U.S.A., and charged admission fees and sold books, picture postcards and monster emblazoned T-Shirts to something like 50,000 tourists each year. Despite these almost unlimited funds, the Bureau failed to produce a decent picture or any worthwhile evidence.

Several universities have carried out short-term expeditions but most of them worked with the Bureau and very little came out to the British public. The Japanese Loch Ness Expedition of 1973 was a farce. Its members brought less equipment than the average tourist carries. In fact, its leader was a Chinese boxing promoter who puts on pop shows and similar spectaculars in Tokyo—for cash.

With Frank Searle on October 21st, 1972, when this photo was made was Miss Carole Kennard, a young Australian schoolteacher.

1976 Sightings

Following is a list of 1976 sightings as reported by Frank Searle:

February 11th: By myself, off Foyers Point at 2:45 p.m.

February 26th: By myself, Mr. Charles Greenwood from North London, and by Ellen and Judith Silvester from state of Illinois, U.S.A. Between Foyers and Inverfarigaig at 3:10 p.m.

February 28th: By Mr. and Mrs. Rainford and Mr. and Mrs. G. Spencer all from Merseyside. Between Dores and Whitefield at 11:45 a.m.

March 19th: By Mr. and Mrs. G. Downie, and Tommy and Ken Downie from Aberdeen, and Mrs. E. McKenzie from Dundee. Near Fort Augustus at 4:35 p.m.

April 13th: By two Police Officers, Sgt. Donald Nicholson and Constable Gray from Fort Augustus. Near Invermoriston.

May 4th: By Mr. and Mrs. John Ely of New Haven, Connecticut, U.S.A. Urquhart Bay about 5:30 p.m.

May 4th: By Mr. Tom Skinner of Telford Road, Inverness. Between Tor Point and Lochend about 7:30 p.m.

June 7th: By Mr. and Mrs. G. Tolchard of Rosyth, Fife and Miss Debbie Halewood of Harrow, Middlesex. In Dores Bay at 11:30 a.m.

July 1st: By Mr. Alastair McKenzie and Miss Lorraine Gilliat of Bathgate, West Lothian and Miss Kathy McLean of Edinburgh. Near Invermoriston about 3:25 p.m.

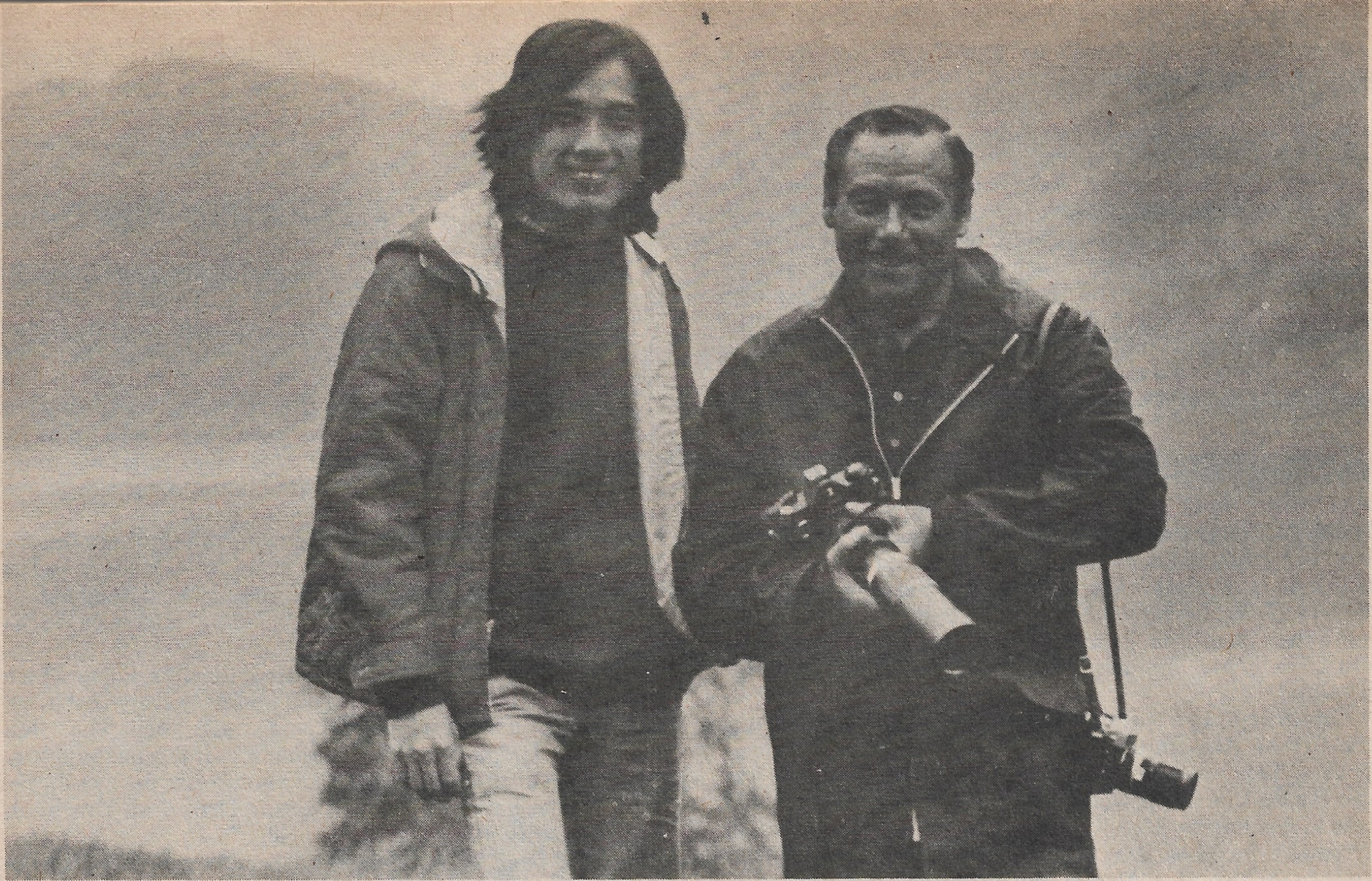
August 21st: By Anthony Luke of Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Between Clansman Hotel and Urquhart Bay.

August 22nd: By myself, Maureen Butler from Hemel Hempstead, Herts and Sara Hanson from Harpenden, Herts. Off Foyers Point at 6:50 a.m.

It seems, therefore, that most of the dedicated watches of Loch Ness are the "loners," the men and women, boys and girls, who year after year pitch their tents or park their caravans by the Loch-side and spend all hours of daylight gazing at the dark water through binoculars or telephoto lens and fervently hoping that one of the beasts will come within range. Unfortunately, most peoples' holidays are of short duration and as the sightings are few and far between, and in many cases merely a breaking of the surface for a few seconds, only a small minority of the watchers get any reward for their dedication.

I wouldn't think there are more than ten genuine sightings a year over the whole Loch. And there is no pattern whatsoever. There is no evidence to suggest that one part of the Loch is best for sightings. The creatures have been seen in all kinds of weather conditions, at any time of the day and in every month of the year. As far as the beasts themselves are concerned, there would be no seasons as the water in Loch Ness has a constant temperature of 6° Centigrade (43°F).

The fact that the sightings are so infrequent surely suggests that the beasts do not have to come up for air. Why then do we see them at all? I think the answer is a very simple one. Like the Plesiosaur, these beasts must be fish eaters. There is not enough vegetation in the Loch to support any large creatures for a long period. The Monsters could feed on eels. There are millions of them in Loch Ness, some quite large, and they do go down into the depths. But a large part of the fish population is made up of Salmon, Sea Trout and Brown Trout. The former run up the River Ness from the North Sea, through the Loch and spawn in the rivers and streams which feed it. These fish are all very close to the surface. When I troll for Salmon my lures are only 3 feet below the surface. A creature some 30 feet in length with a long neck and large body coming to within a few feet of the surface must surely show part of itself. And there have been many reports of unusual fish activity just before a sighting. Attempts to lure the creatures with fish baits, hormones, underwater sounds of aquatic beasts, etc., have been tried but without much success. The problem is that the creatures have to be *above* the surface to be photographed.



Author-explorer Frank Searle (right), camera at the ready, is shown with a member of a Japanese television team which camped at Loch Ness for two weeks, searching for the elusive Nessie.

Here I might bring up the fact that the Loch Ness Monsters have been protected by a local bye-law since 1934. It is said that a well-known American circus had ideas about catching one, putting it on show and cashing in. But when their expedition came up against the physical aspects of Loch Ness, the area, the great depth and, most of all, the lack of visibility in the water, its members decided that there was no way to catch one alive and wanted to drop explosives into the Loch.

I'm told that one Scottish peer went blue in the face at the very thought of such an action. Anyway, the law was brought in and no one must take or attempt to take any unidentified species, or the remains of any such species, from Loch Ness. So here we come up with the interesting fact that although many leading scientists will not officially accept their existence, Scottish law has recognized the existence of the Loch Ness Monsters for many years.

The attitude of science towards anything unusual is pathetic. I myself came up against it in 1974. In January of that year, I obtained two good pictures from a lay-by two miles west of Dores. A newspaper reporter took the negatives and "blow-ups" of the pictures to Glasgow University's Department of Zoology. For a while the Chief Lecturer, Mr. Peter Meadows, was most enthusiastic. . . . He told the reporter that these were by far the best pictures he had seen from Loch Ness and said, "I think it must be an extinct reptile of the Plesiosaur family". Great stuff! But then he realized that he was sticking his neck out and had to go back and face his colleagues. He stopped enthusing and insisted on the reporter closing his article with the words, "But, of course, science would find it hard to accept pictures. We would really need one of the animals on the table".

So here we have a situation where the Chief Lecturer in Zoology at a famous university, privately goes along with the Plesiosaur theory. But in his official capacity he does not want to know. It seems that with scientists, any urge for discovery is far outweighed by love of their reputations.

Around Loch Ness with Frank Searle

A "must" for thousands of visitors to Inverness-shire is the drive around Loch Ness. This was made easy by the construction of the A82 road in the 1930's and the improving of General Wade's Military Road along the south bank some years later. Many visitors only realise the vastness of Loch Ness after making this trip. The motorist who records his mileage will find that he clocks up something like seventy miles. But even with today's high running costs, the journey is well worthwhile.

Leaving Inverness, one takes the Dores Road which, for a short distance, runs beside the River Ness and the picturesque Ness Islands. Some four miles out and the road is flanked by rows of stately copper beech trees. Along this stretch is the Scaniport Caravan Site. Although there is no access to Loch or River it is a useful overnight stop for campers. The toilet facilities are good and there is hot and cold water.

The traveller gets his first glimpse of Loch Ness from the brae above Aldourie School. And half-way down the brae, looking to the north, one sees stately Aldourie Castle, home of Lt. Col. A.E. Cameron, known affectionately to the local people as, "The Wee Laird". Another mile or so and we reach the village of Dores and the start of Loch Ness. The Dores Inn, small but friendly, supplies welcome refreshment to enthusiasts. From here it is possible to walk along the beach to Tor Point. Several very good sightings have been made in Dores Bay.

Mrs. Rose of Rose Cottage does Bed & Breakfast, and her neat cottage on the Loch-side is popular with Nessie hunters who can sit in the kitchen and look out across the Loch. For the next six miles or so, the road runs parallel to and very close to the water's edge.

One mile west of Dores is Balachladaich Farm which advertises a camping field. This would be an ideal spot for anglers and Nessie watchers with its easy access to more than half-a-mile of beach. Unfortunately, the toilet facilities are very poor, water is piped from a nearby stream, but the charges are on a par with fully equipped camping sites. And there's always the chance of a cow poking its head into one's tent.

After Balachladaich, still heading west, we motor along one of the most popular stretches. There are six large lay-bys and at each one the Forestry Commission has cut away the trees so that visitors have a good view of the Loch. And on three of these viewpoints they have erected tables and seats for the benefit of picnickers. There is fairly easy access to the beach from all the viewpoints. Spring visitors enjoy the thousands of primroses which grow on the sloping banks, and from mid-January the gorse provides a blaze of gold along the road-side. Many of the trees along this stretch are hazel and autumn visitors find it easy to collect the nuts.

Next point of interest is the Forestry village of Inverfarigaig. Just past the village a road to the left leads to the Forestry Walk. Here trees are labelled for identification, several are sawn through so that the age can be calculated. And near the top of the walk is a badger set. A mile past Inverfarigaig, a road branching down to the Loch-side leads to the Hydro-Electric Power Station at Lower Foyers. Taking over four years to construct at a cost of more than 20 million pounds, the Station was opened April 4th 1975 by Mr. William Ross, then Secretary of State for Scotland.

On through to Foyers. From 1895 until a few years ago, the British Aluminium Company had a factory at Lower Foyers. This was the first industry in the British Isles to use Hydro-Electric power. The Foyers River was diverted below the Foyers Falls to run beneath the factory and drive the turbines. Mr. Hugh Gray, who took the first known picture of a Nessie in November 1933, was an employee at this factory.

Just past the factory is the Marina owned by North Highland Charters. Cabin cruisers can be hired by the week and motor launches, dinghies, etc., by the hour. There is also a snack bar. Beside the Marina is The Frank Searle Loch Ness Information Centre. Here the visitor can see pictures of the Loch Ness Monsters, a fantastic display of information, newspaper and magazine cuttings from many parts of the world, and obtain some intelligent answers to their questions. There is no admission fee. The project is run solely on donations.

Heading back to Upper Foyers one sees Foyers Bay House on the right. Here very good bed and breakfast can be obtained. At Upper Foyers there is a small shop and sub-Post Office. And opposite, a path leads down to the famous water-fall. For the next fifteen miles the road goes away from Loch Ness, but the traveller is compensated by the beautiful scenery. The Whitebridge Hotel has a good bar, provides accommodation and serves bar snacks.

Some 3 miles from Fort Augustus, the road reaches the highest point of Glen Doe, 1,275 feet above sea-level, and from here one gets a marvellous view of the village and the Benedictine Abbey. The Abbey is on the site of the old fort erected by General Wade somewhere around 1726. In the nineteenth century it was presented to the Benedictine Order by the then Lord Lovat. It now has a private school and is open to the public. There are several hotels and shops in Fort Augustus, and in the car park, a tourist information centre.

Here the road rejoins Loch Ness. Seven miles east of Fort Augustus it turns into Glen Moriston, and the village of Invermoriston. The Glen is about 19 miles long and follows the course of the River Moriston from Loch Ness to Loch Cluanie. There are several beautiful waterfalls and rocky gorges along the glen. Near Torgyle Bridge are the famous Glen Moriston foot-prints. According to legend, a preacher stood on this spot, and to prove the truth of his preaching, vowed that no grass would ever grow where he was standing. Strangely, none has ever grown! Also in the glen is the Roderick MacKenzie Cairn, erected on the spot where Roderick MacKenzie was killed by Redcoats while trying to decoy them away from the cave where Bonnie Prince Charlie was hiding after the defeat at Culloden.

The hotel at Invermoriston has a well-stocked and pleasant bar. There is also a caravan site. A few miles on is the Alltsaigh Youth Hostel, a popular stop for many young people. It was near here that I had my first sighting while on holiday in 1965. The road then runs under the shadow of Meallfourvonie, at 2,283 feet, the highest point around Loch Ness. A translation of the Gaelic is "the round hill of the cold moors".

If the motorist stops by the John Cobb Memorial he will be looking across the deepest part of the Loch, 980 feet. This Cairn was erected in memory of John Cobb who was killed here in 1952, while attempting to break the word water speed record. Some writers have hinted that a Nessie might have caused this tragedy and mention strange waves or wakes being seen. But there is absolutely no evidence to support this idea. It seems more likely that the boat exceeded its maximum performance and exploded.

Almost all visitors stop at the ruins of Urquhart Castle. This old fortress dates back to the 13th Century, and is believed to stand on the site of an earlier stronghold. It now comes under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Works and is open to the public.

A short distance from the Castle is Borlum Farm which has a caravan and camping site, and does pony trekking. At Lewiston there is a hotel and a gift shop. The Glen Urquhart Lodge Hotel at Drumnadrochit is a popular stay for Nessie hunters. There is also a snack bar in the village. The Gaelic name for this village is Druim na Drochaid, which means "the ridge of the bridge".

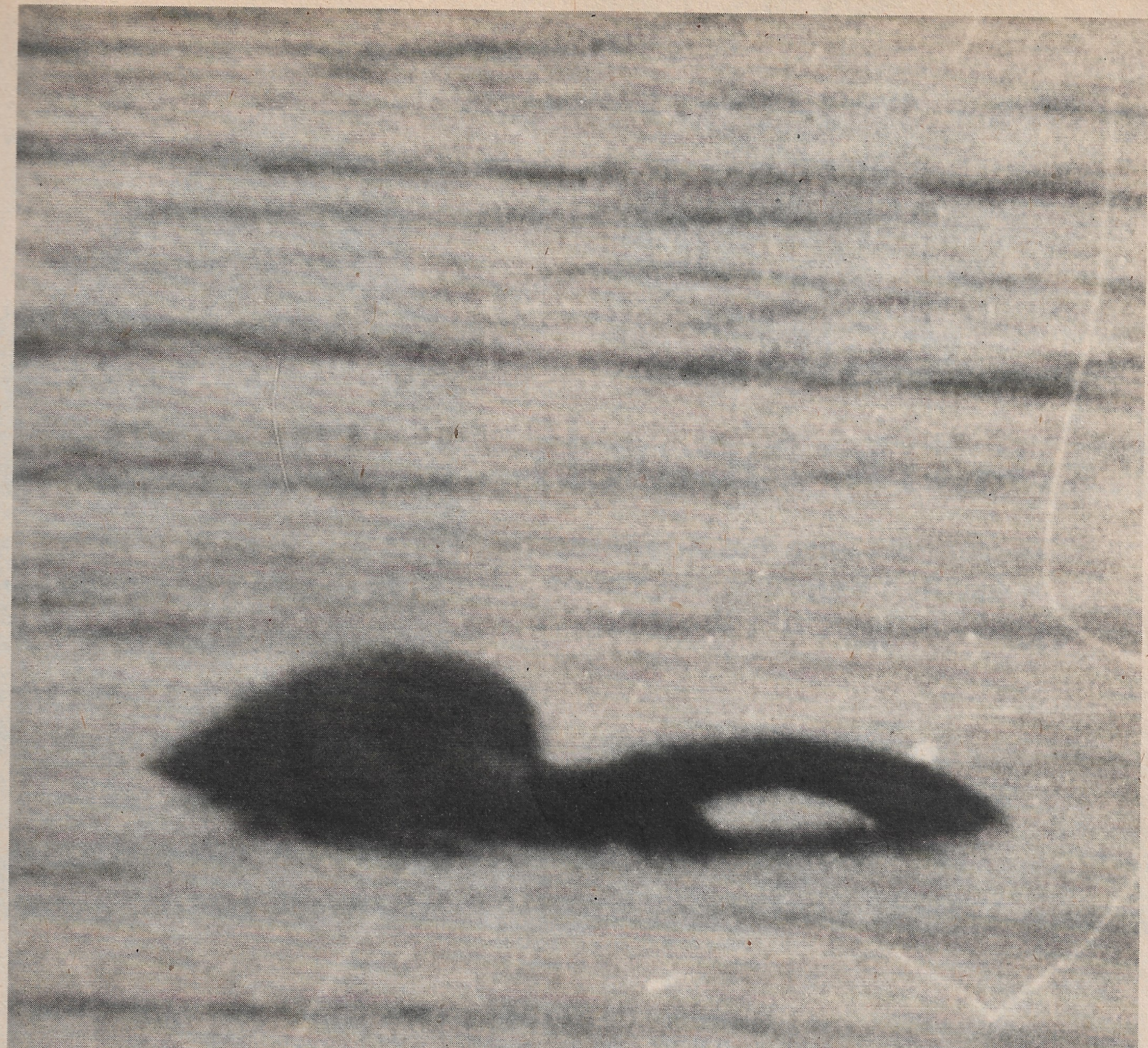
Out of Glen Urquhart the road runs very close to the Loch-side again, but because of the steep banks there is little access to the beach. There are, however, a number of good lay-bys along the A82 from which enthusiasts can do their Nessie watching. The Clansman Hotel, with its marvellous view of the Loch, is a very popular place. Several good sightings have been made from here.

Many regular visitors to Loch Ness stay with Mrs. Woodward at Abriachan. She has two caravans for hire and does Bed & Breakfast. This charming lady has seen a Nessie and will always take time off to chat about the scene.

A few miles on and we come to the village of Lochend. And as its name implies it is at the end of the Loch. After that, it is just a short run back to Inverness, the only other possible points of interest being the Caravan Site at Dochfour, and the Golf Course beside the Caledonian Canal. ☐

Two Sightings On May 4th

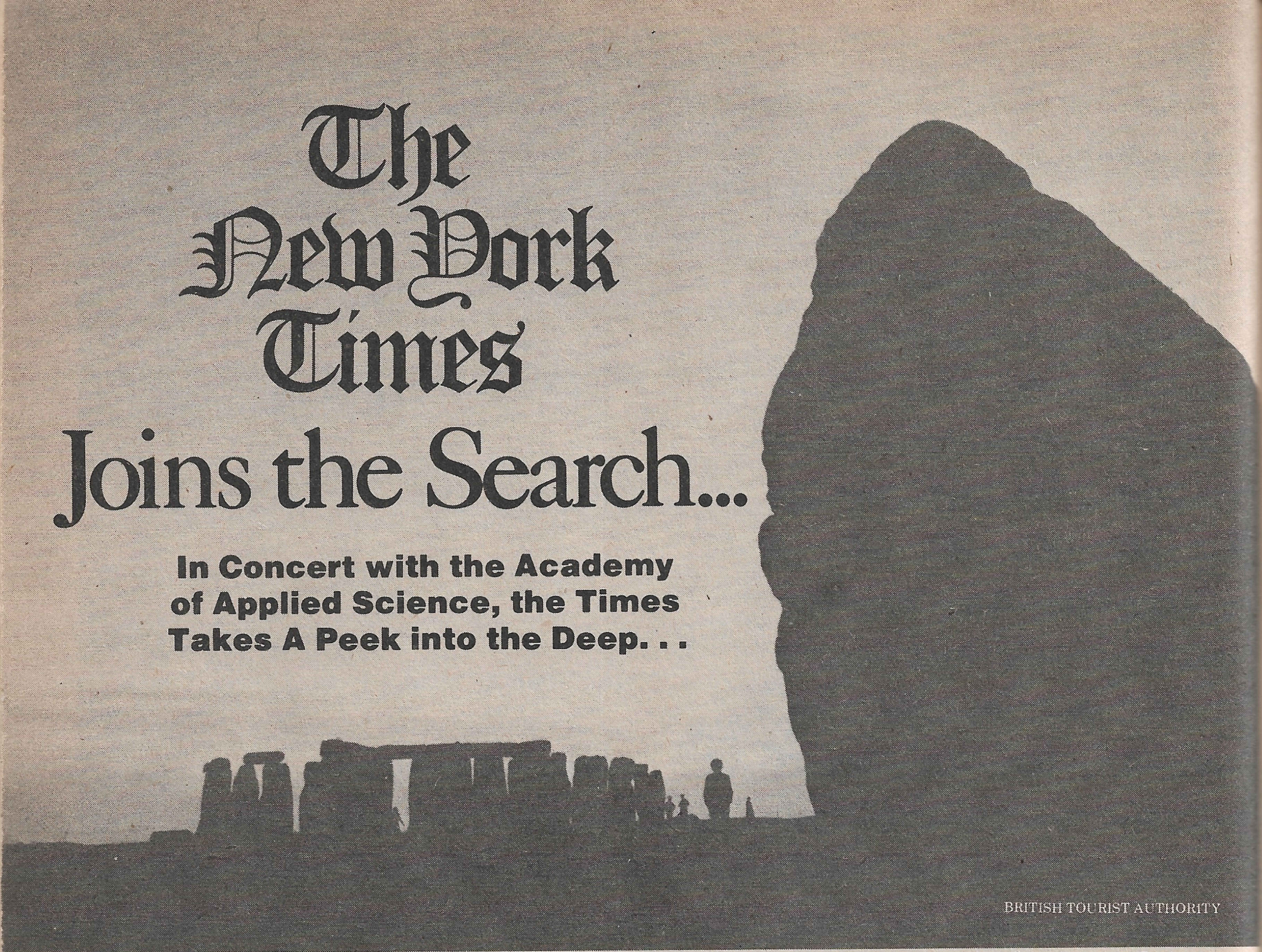
The two sightings on May 4th, 1976, were very interesting. In the early afternoon, Mr. and Mrs. John Ely, of New Haven, Conn., U.S.A., visited my site. They then drove around the Loch and, at about 5:30 p.m., were parked on a lay-by between Urquhart Bay and the Clansman Hotel. Next morning they returned to my site to tell me what they'd seen. Mrs. Ely described an "upturned boat" shape, dark grey in color which appeared on the surface for about ten seconds at a distance of perhaps 400 yards. Later that day I heard that Mr. Tom Skinner of Telford Road, Inverness, had been cycling along the Loch-side at about 7 p.m. and had had a similar sighting, but this time the beast broke surface twice. Mr. Skinner was at a point about one mile east of where the Americans were parked. Two sightings within two hours and only a mile apart could suggest that both witnesses had seen the same animal which may have been near the surface feeding. These are but a few of thousands of eyewitness reports made over a long period of time.—*Frank Searle*



This photograph was taken by Frank Searle on June 8th, 1974.

The New York Times Joins the Search...

In Concert with the Academy of Applied Science, the Times Takes A Peek into the Deep. . .



The expedition has turned up underwater photographs of ancient stone formations that resemble legendary Stonehenge in England.

In a front page story published on Sunday, June 6th, 1976, the *New York Times* announced that the joint expedition between the *Times* and Boston's Academy of Applied Science to find the Loch monster had been officially launched at Drumnadrochit, Scotland. Said Dr. Robert Rines of Boston, leader of the search, "We have maximized our chances of success. We have some of the world's best experts, not only to design and build our equipment, but also to help us install and operate it. We think we have what it will take to get the kind of information zoologists and others need to identify what these moving objects in the loch really are." And he added:

"People tell me it's been a dry spring, which means the rivers are not flowing into the loch. The salmon coming in from the ocean should be congregating in the bay now, but they can't get up the rivers to spawn—they're trapped for the time being. That means the monsters are likely to be in the bay too, feeding on the salmon.

The first round of pictures, taken by sumberged cameras and lights in the murky waters of Loch Ness, consisted of some 8,000 color negatives. Television cameras were also lowered into the water to a planned depth of about 40 feet. A sonar sounding operation was also launched to determine the loch's depth at various points.

Other members of the expedition team included Charles W. Wyckoff, photo analyst, and Dr. Harold E. Edgerton, chief of photography. Wyckoff, particularly, was busily engaged in unpacking, assembling and testing the technological equipment used in the search. He's a graduate of Dartmouth College and M.I.T. and a partner of Applied Photo Science of Boston. During World War II, Wyckoff developed photographic equipment for observing underwater explosions, and later he was in charge of the first high speed photography of atom bomb tests for the purpose of scientific analysis. He is also the inventor of a new kind of film, called XR, which is virtually impossible to overexpose, even in the most brilliant kind of light.

By June 9th, the expedition reported that, despite the planning, a bevy of mechanical and electrical problems was plaguing the first days of the search. Full and effective operation of the underwater TV monitoring system had been delayed, even though the submerged elapsed-time camera continued to snap about 3,000 pictures, hopefully to come up with a candid shot of Nessie or any other strange looking creatures in the water.

Even though there were frustrations, the engineers and scientists did come up with pictures of what appeared to be ancient stone formations, a kind of underwater Stonehenge, in the shallow northeast end of Loch Ness. Sonar charts turned up an outline of stone formations which resemble ceremonial stone circles or burial cairns associated with the early Celtic tribes and the legendary Druids. The most famous example of these is Stonehenge in England. Discovery of these underwater formations could become a major archeological find. As for finding the monster itself, eventually the expedition's leaders were to sum-up by saying the results were "disappointing, but not discouraging."

The expedition and all its busy goings-on attracted a number of the local residents who came down to the lochside to observe the various operations. One visitor to the expedition's diggings was Jimmy McLennan, 62, one of the old-time crofters of the highlands. Most of his life McLennan has lived with his wife and five children on a ridge high above Loch Ness. But, to hear him tell it, he's never seen the monster.

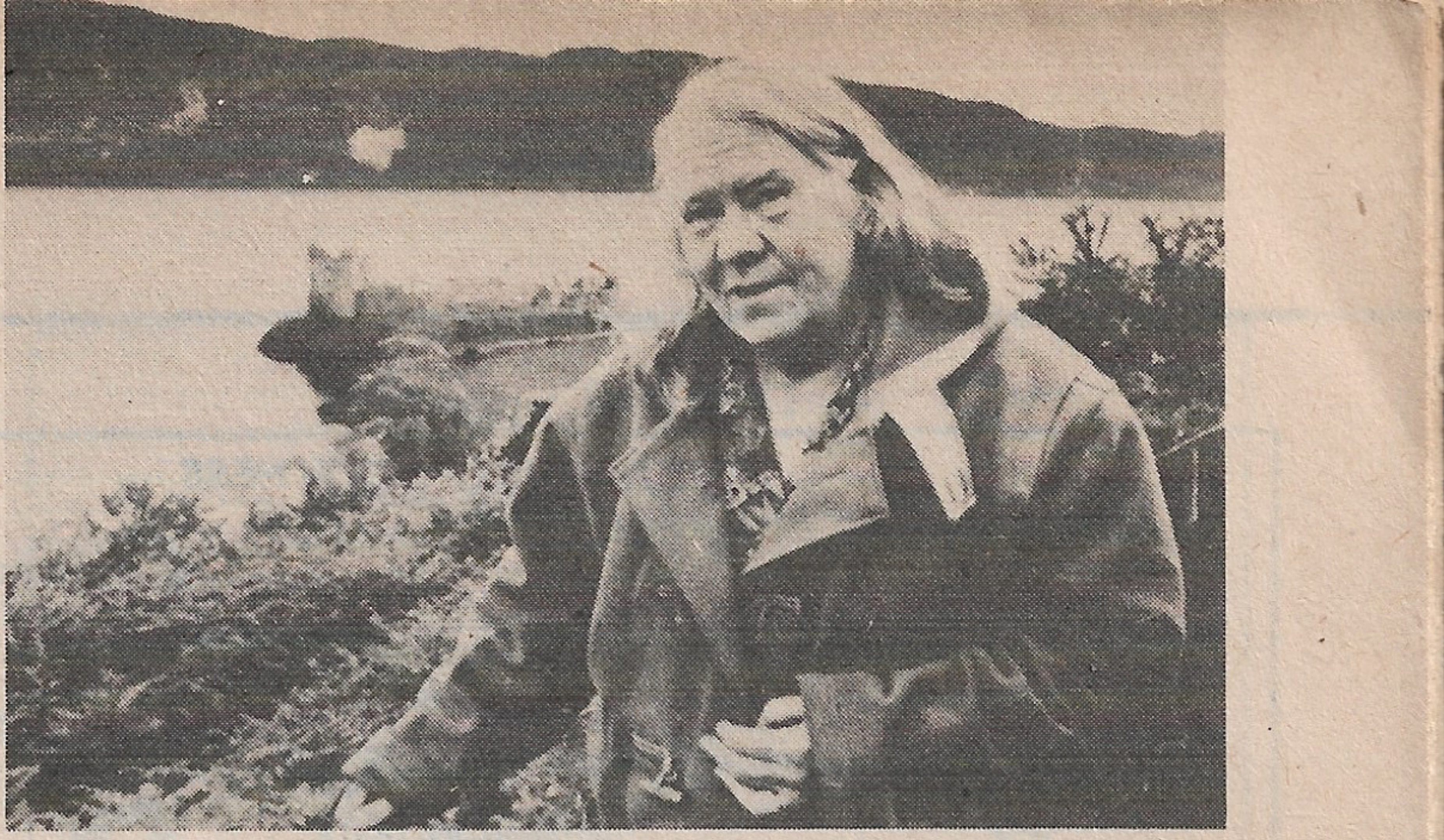
"I was down there with the sheep one day," McLennan recalls, "and I saw something strange in the water. Then I saw some boys rowing towards it, and when they lifted it out, it was a lawn chair. That's the closest I ever came to a monster, and I've been looking at that water for most of this century."

But Mrs. Winifred Cary has seen it, 15 times at least. She spent summers at Loch Ness before settling in a house there in 1951—a house located high above the medieval ruins of Urquhart Castle.

"I first saw the monster in 1917 when I was eleven," she relates, "when I was out in a boat with my brother. A huge hump appeared before us, like a large upturned boat, and then moved away very rapidly. We got out of there just as fast. I didn't have another sighting until 1954 when my son, Bill, was home on leave and I was down at the front field overlooking the castle."

Mrs. Cary admits she has never taken a picture of the monster, and explains this by saying, "I can't go around with a camera draped around my neck all the time." And, as for the failure of others to get good pictures of the monster, Mrs. Cary has her own ideas as to the reasons:

"Most of the volunteers are students who come up here for a lark," she says, adding, "but I think they spend most of their time in the woods." □



Mrs. Winifred Cary has seen the monster no less than 15 times but says she can't be bothered with a camera around her neck.

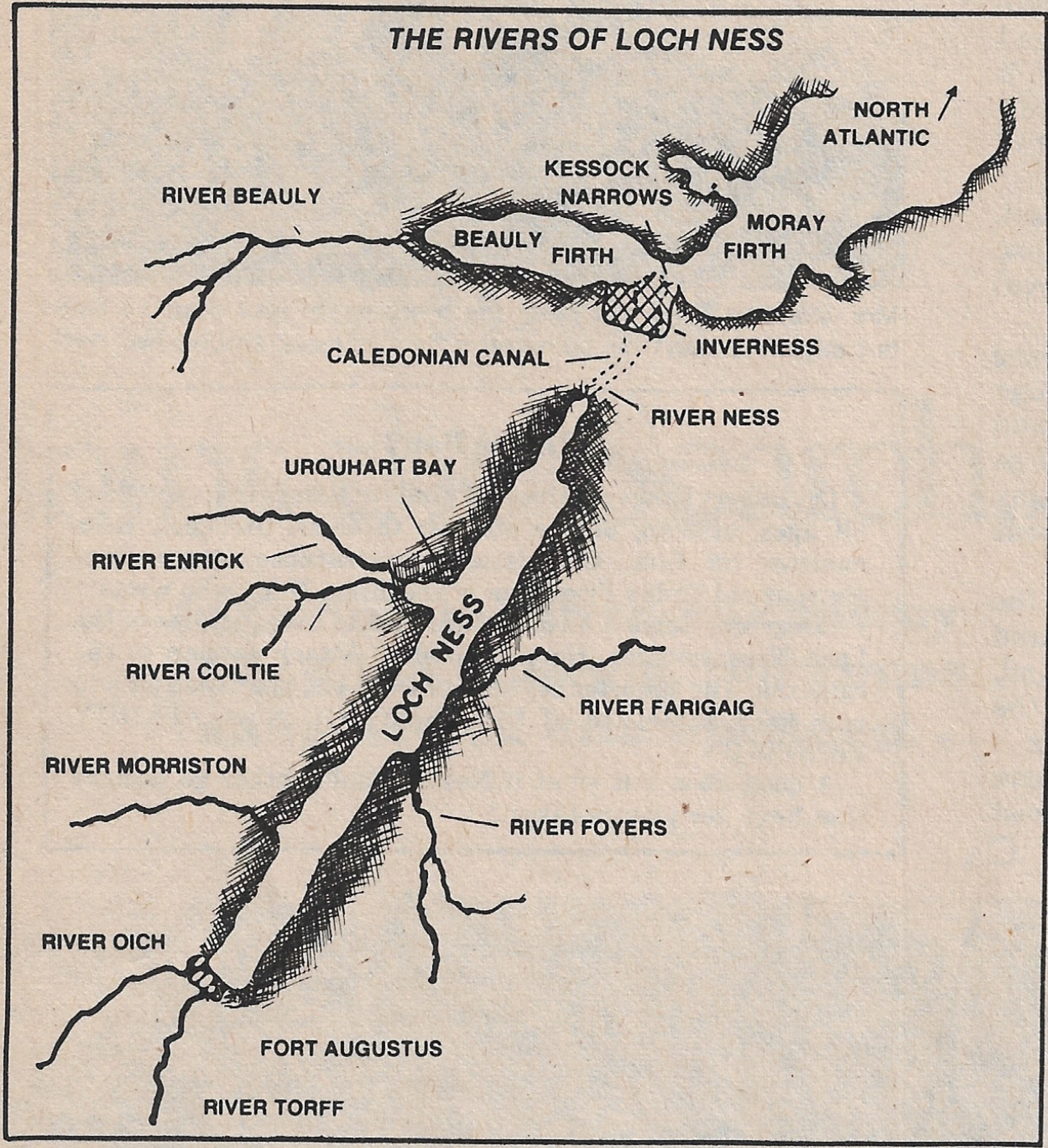
Nessie Bait?

Dr. Robert Rines receives all kinds of letters from people of all ages, offering advice on how to catch the Loch Ness monster on film. One letter, for instance, came from six-year-old Teddy Friedmun of Ossining, N.Y., who wrote:

"Dear Dr. Rines: I have an idea how to take pictures of the Loch Ness monster. Here's my idea. Attach salmon to the cameras. The monster will swim in to eat the fish and you can take a picture of him. Sincerely yours, TEDDY FRIEDMUN-"

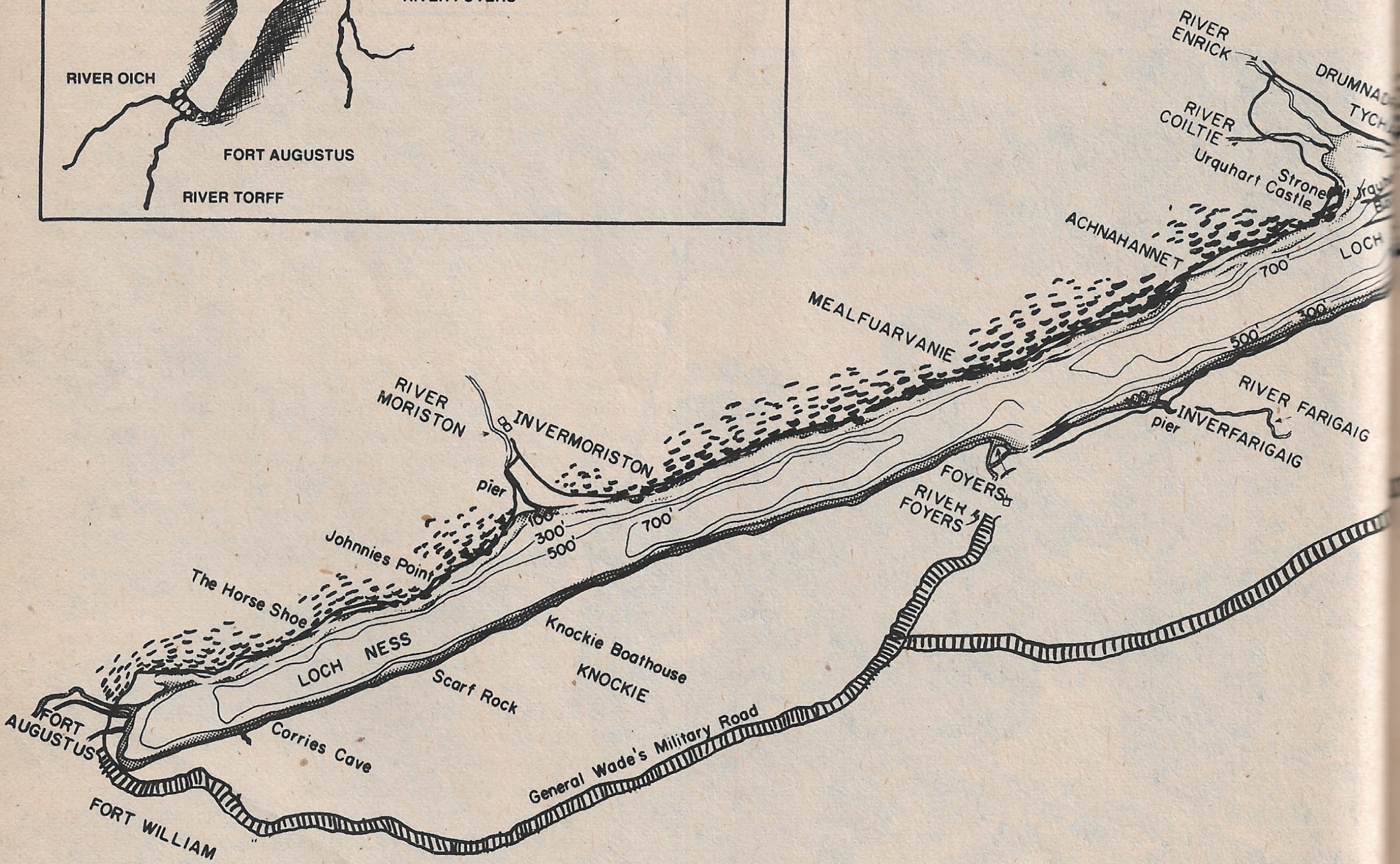
A good idea, but what if Nessie would rather go hungry that have her picture taken?

Three leading members of Academy of Applied Science/New York Times expedition are from left: expedition leader Dr. Robert Rines; photo-strobe experts Charles Wyckoff and Harold Edgerton.


THE RIVERS OF LOCH NESS
NORTH ATLANTIC
KESSOCK NARROWS
RIVER BEAULY
BEAULY FIRTH
MORAY FIRTH
CALEDONIAN CANAL
INVERNESS
RIVER NESS
URQUHART BAY
RIVER ENRICK
LOCH NESS
RIVER COILTIE
RIVER FARIGAIG
RIVER MORRISTON
RIVER FOYERS
RIVER OICH
FORT AUGUSTUS
RIVER TORFF

A LOOK AT THE LOCH

If You Take the High Road, I'll Take the Low Road And I'll See Nessie Afore You. . .


RIVER ENRICK
RIVER COILTIE
Strone
Urquhart Castle
ACHNAHANNET
700
LOCH
MEALFUARVANIE
500
300
RIVER FARIGAIG
RIVER MORISTON
INVERMORISTON
INVERFARIGAIG
pier
pier
FOYERS
RIVER FOYERS
100
300
500
700
Johnnies Point
The Horse Shoe
LOCH NESS
Knockie Boathouse
KNOCKIE
Scarf Rock
FORT AUGUSTUS
Corries Cave
General Wade's Military Road
FORT WILLIAM

Loch Ness, the largest lake in the British Isles, is some 24 miles long and about one mile across. This weird, strange and lonely body of water has an average depth of 750 feet, but in some places the water goes down as far as 975 feet. Far below, divers have in years gone by, reported the existence of subterranean caves and passages which lead away underground in both directions under the loch's shores. Does the monster, or a family of monsters, live in these underwater caves, playing hide-and-seek with thousands of camera-bearing lake watchers who constantly line the shores above?

Loch Ness has several wild and lonely stretches, but perhaps the most eerie section lies between Glen Urquhart and Foyers—a part of the lake where Nessie has

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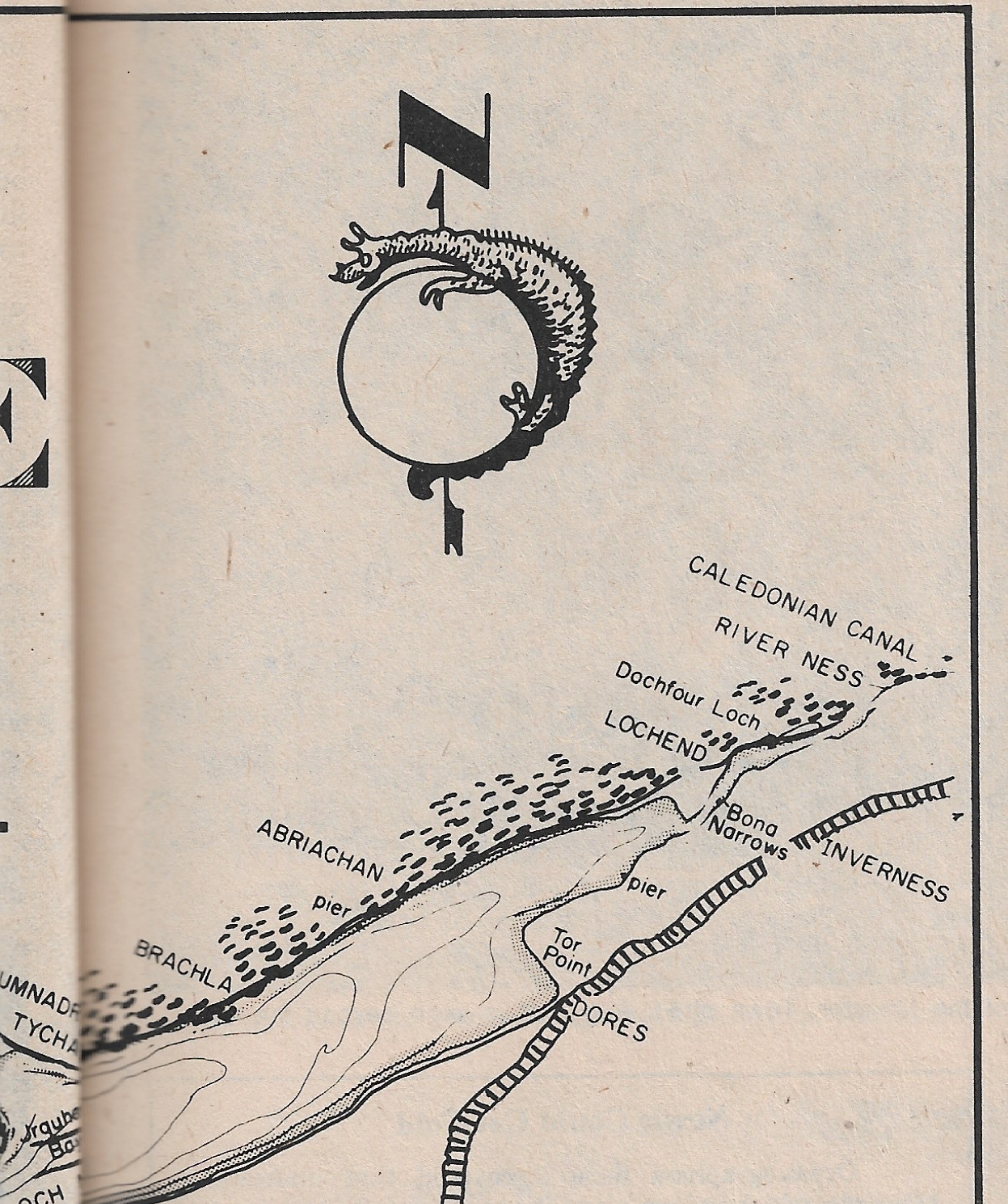


Monster Tourist Trade

Whether Nessie actually exists or not, the Scottish community of Inverness is booming with a steady increase in tourist trade—with thousands converging on the Loch Ness area with their cameras, looking for monsters, of course. Inverness, as well as villages up and down the length of Loch Ness, are garnering an estimated income of about 60 million dollars from the tourist trade. They buy anything, ranging from Nessie T-shirts and towels to monster ashtrays, books, postcards and they eat things like monster-burgers.

een sighted many, many times. On the northern shore stands the brooding ruins of Urquhart Castle while on the southern side, just across the water from Drumnadrochit, stands a low-slung building called Boleskine near the village of Foyers. This building, lying beneath an overhang of massive rocks, was once the home of Aleister Crowley, the magician. Here in the midst of the loch's legacy of strange and monstrous creatures rising from the waters, Crowley studied the lore of his trade, often using his powers of incantation to call up demons in the darkness of his home beneath rocks which blocked out the sunlight.

The questions remains: Do monsters exist in the depths of Loch Ness? Do monsters actually breed in the subterranean caverns which, according to deep divers, exist beneath the murky waters? Can any type of creature, such as a plesiosaurus type, continue to live for more than *two centuries?*

Any attempt to answer questions such as these must take into account the prehistoric history of Loch Ness and its surrounding area. What is now Loch Ness was buried under ice during the Ice Age which ended a mere 12,000 years ago, and if the lake has any strange creatures, they arrived after the ice went away. If the animals are actually plesiosaurs (marine reptiles which subsist on fish), they could have entered Loch Ness through the underwater caverns which once, if not now, were geologically connected with the oceans, like both ends of the loch itself.

What is commonly known as Loch Ness is actually one of three continuous lakes—with Loch Lochy to the south, Loch Oich in the middle, and old familiar Loch Ness on the northern end. All three lakes lie in a deep gorge, a gigantic geological fault known as the Great Glenn. Taken together, the three lakes form a body of water known as the Caledonian Canal which begins at the northeastern seacoast town of Inverness and extends to Fort William on the southwest. Loch Ness itself is about 52 feet above sea level. A narrow lake, it's only about a mile-and-a-half at its widest. Lining both sides of the loch are pine-covered hills that range upwards as high as 2,400 feet.

Some six major rivers enter Loch Ness, in addition to about 30 smaller streams, giving rise to estimates of some 13 million adult salmon in the lake itself—a fabulous food supply for any aggregation of monsters, large or small. In his analytical book, "The Monsters of Loch Ness," (The Swallow Press, Inc., Chicago, Ill.), Professor Roy P. Mackal of the University of Chicago, takes up the question of monster survival:

"Could Loch Ness support a small population of large animals even if no migratory food were available? This question has been explored by A.W. Sheldon and D.P. Kerr of the Bedford Institute of Oceanography, and also by W. Scheider and P. Wallis in two papers published in the journal of *Limnology and Oceanography*. Both groups calculated a possible population density of monsters in Loch Ness based on estimated stocks of living organisms in the lake. Sheldon and Kerr calculated the range of the total mass of monsters as between 7,000 and 34,500 pounds. Assuming 220 pounds per monster, the number in the loch could be as many as 156. Scheider and Wallis used an alternate method of calculating, but arrived at similar biomass estimates—34,600 pounds. They suggest that the

This picturesque heart of the Scottish countryside is the home of the Monster. Town of Ft. Augustus is seen beyond the lake.

total populations of our Loch Ness animals might range, depending on weight, between 10 large monsters and 157 small ones."

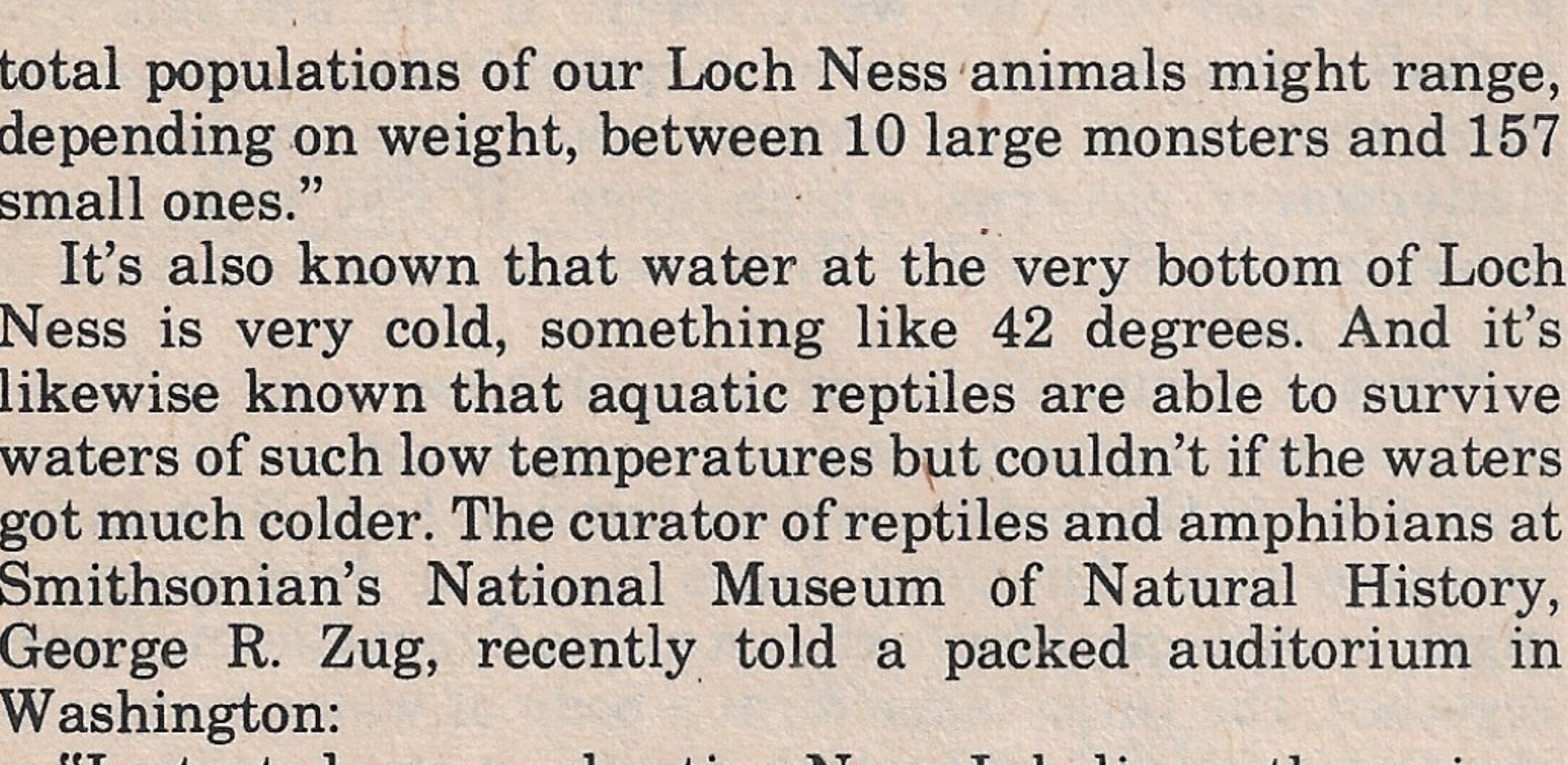
It's also known that water at the very bottom of Loch Ness is very cold, something like 42 degrees. And it's likewise known that aquatic reptiles are able to survive waters of such low temperatures but couldn't if the waters got much colder. The curator of reptiles and amphibians at Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, George R. Zug, recently told a packed auditorium in Washington:

"I started as a skeptic. Now I believe there is a population of large animals in Loch Ness. I don't have any idea of what they are; I have no way of identifying them. And I'm not going to try until I meet one eye to eye."

Zug also has his own ideas about the size and weight of the Loch Ness aquarium. In *Smithsonian Magazine,* he points out that for a creature to grow to the size postulated, a lifetime of at least 20 years is a conservative figure. And he adds that their numbers may be determined, at least partly, by the loch's food supply. Despite differing opinions about the number of salmon, Arctic char and eels that inhabit the loch, Zug believes there could be 10 to 20 monsters there if they weigh around 3,000 pounds each—and as many as 150 smaller monsters if the individual weight is about 330 pounds.

Nessie Could Get Cold

. . . Oceanographers have discovered that underwater blizzards, which reduce visibility to practically zero most of the time, are constantly taking place under the surface of Lake Michigan, regardless of what the weather is like on the surface. University of Michigan scientists made their discovery, using a mini-submarine equipped with powerful searchlights. The blizzards, apparently are caused by fine solids, believed to be particles of dead animal and plant life. These swirl around in the water and slowly settle to the bottom of the lake. The storms are so intense that in many of the dives in the submarine the scientists could not see the bottom until they were sitting on it. They also discovered some new information about Lake Michigan itself. It was apparently once two separate lakes, perhaps as recently as several thousand years ago. In the middle, at a depth of more than 930 feet, the investigators found a plateau which probably, in the dim distant past, divided the two lakes.



Scientists who've made a study of the Loch Ness environment, say there may be as many as 50 monsters like this one in lake.

Professor Mackal, in his book cited above, mentions that some have said the Loch Ness monster may be a very large eel. And he adds: "There is no question of the suitability of the loch's temperatures for eels, since small eels thrive there. Also, it has been suggested that the animal may be a mollusk (snails, squid, etc.), and the loch's temperatures present no problems for these creatures. None of the candidate species is ruled out because of the loch's freshwater conditions. Those animals, such as sirenia and reptiles which are saltwater species, could easily have swum up the rivers into the loch to escape predators or pursue prey, and could have adapted to the loch."

Perhaps the question is best summed up by one life-long resident of Loch Ness's shores who said, in his thick Scottish accent:

"If that a-not Nessie out there in the water, then there's something queer in the loch.' " ☐

Dr. Wilson's Camera Makes A Catch

A London Surgeon, While Returning From A Holiday in Scotland, Takes Nessie's Most Famous Photograph. . .

Probably the best known and certainly the most famous Loch Ness monster picture was made in April of 1934 by a London surgeon, Dr. Kenneth Wilson, who had taken a friend's camera to Scotland for the purpose of photographing trains!

Dr. Wilson had just ended several days of vacation in northern Scotland and was returning to London, driving his own auto. When he reached a point some three miles outside of Ivermoriston on the Inverness Road, he brought the car to a halt, parking at a point looking down on Loch Ness from a height of about 200 feet. The time was about 7:30 a.m. as he climbed down the slope toward the water, looking for a spot to relieve himself.

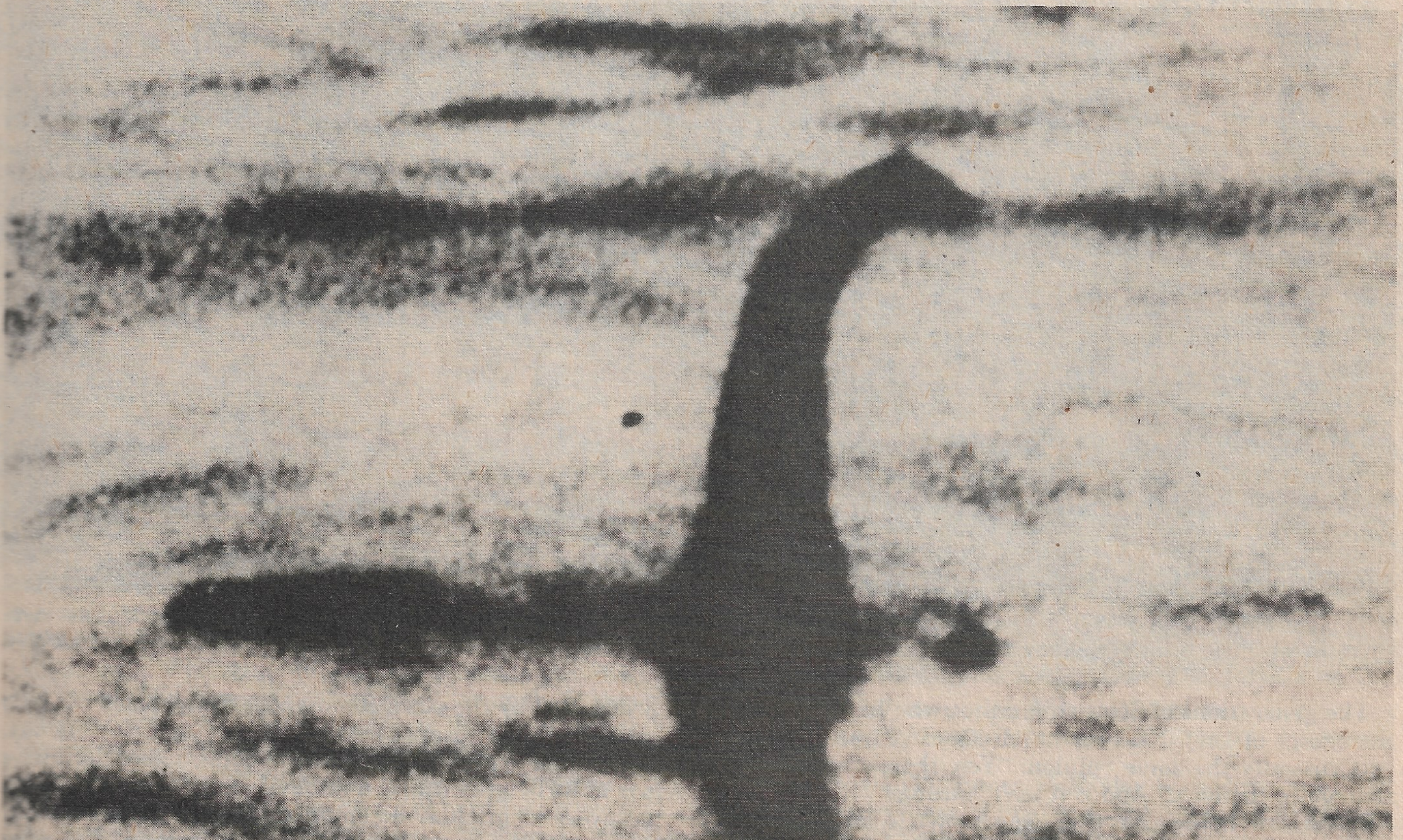
Suddenly, he heard a thrashing noise coming from the direction of the loch, and could see something rising from the water, about 250 yards from where he stood. Then he discerned the head of "some strange animal," ascending upwards from the watery surface.

Rushing back up to the slope to his car, he quickly grabbed the camera which had telephoto lens. Returning to a point about 50 yards down the slope, Dr. Wilson managed to expose the camera plates four times before the creature in the loch disappeared.

On reaching Inverness, he immediately had the plates developed. While two were blanks, one of the remaining pair turned out to be the picture of a long neck arched over the water from what appears to be a thick dark body. The photo has since become one of the most familiar of all Nessie "portraits."

As soon as the picture was published for the first time, the comments and evaluations came thick and fast. Some said it was a log which had somehow floated to the surface, others call it the tip of a diving otter's tail, and still another famous scientist called it "the dorsal fin of a killer whale which had made its way through the narrow gate of the loch from the open sea."

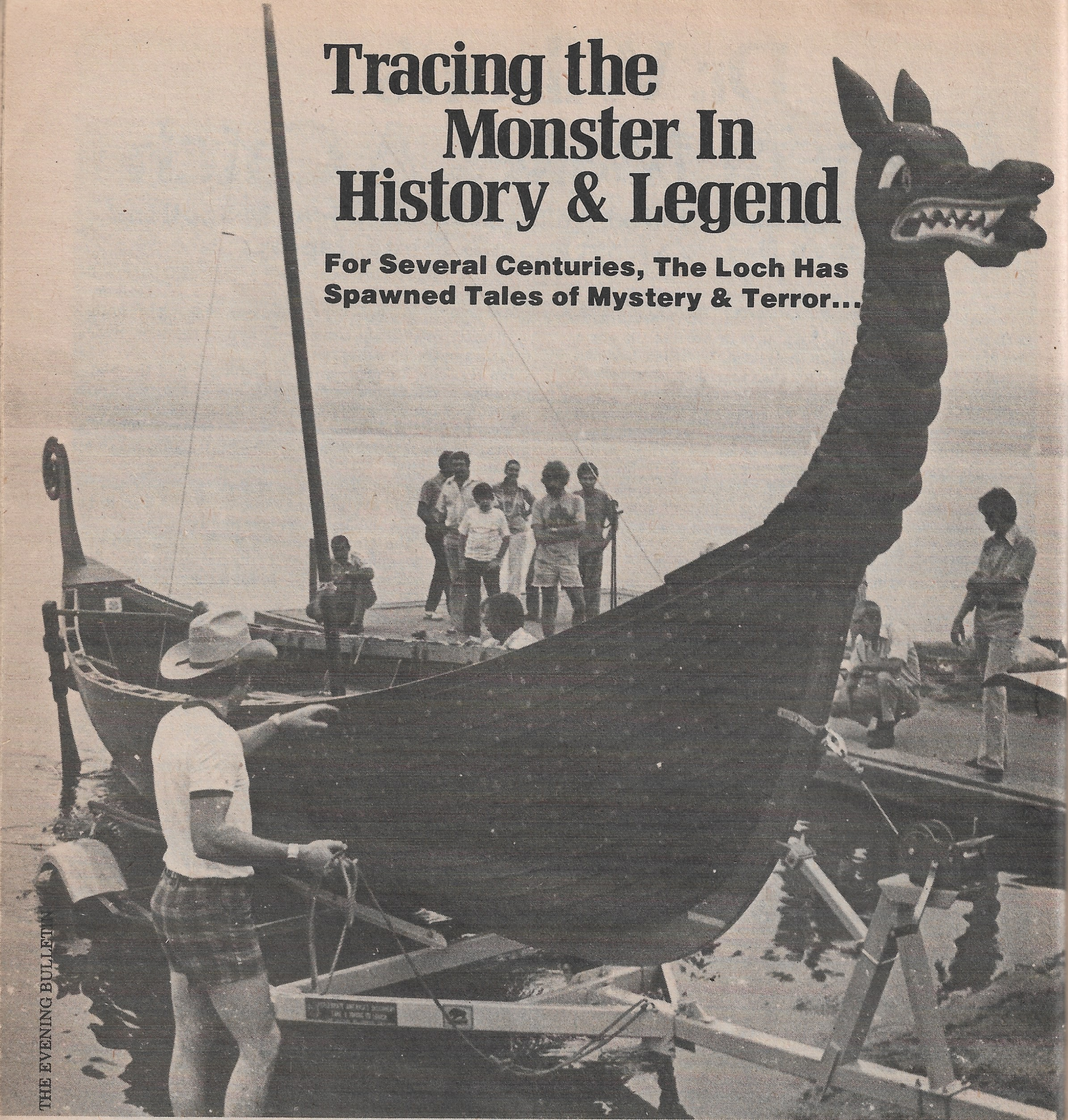
Whatever the explanation, Dr. Wilson's photo has taken its place among the many fascinating items of Loch Ness lore. ☐



Dr. Kenneth Wilson was returning to London from a holiday in Scotland when he made this photo from road overlooking the loch.

Tracing the Monster In History & Legend

For Several Centuries, The Loch Has Spawned Tales of Mystery & Terror...



THE EVENING BULLETIN

In ancient times, Viking sailing vessels with fierce looking figurines on their bows, regularly plied the waters of Loch Ness. Some observers say these ships gave rise to Monster myth. This replica was built and launched in park near Philadelphia.

The generations of Scottish families who have lived on the shores of Loch Ness for hundreds of years, will give you virtually the same opinion: "Yes, there's something strange in the loch." And if it isn't "strange", it's big", or it's "odd", but nobody has ever been known to call it "cute."

The persistent reports of a monster in the Loch go as far back as the year 565 A.D. when Saint Columbia, who brought Christianity to Scotland, not only saw a monster in the water but also commanded it to cease "its vicious ways." It seems that the "fierce monster", seen by Irish missionary Saint Columbia, had already slain one man "with a savage bite" and was going after another when the good saint issued his edict: "Think not to go further nor touch thou that man. Quick, go back!"

Terrified by the stern commands, the monster not only "went back," it disappeared completely and, to this day, has refused to give any one human being a good definitive look at its lengthy frame. One development over the years, however, is gradual acceptance of the belief that our monster is a female, with the name "Nessie" the most appropriate appellation to give her.

Over the years, too, other unidentified submersibles have been seen in Loch Ness in addition to Nessie, the queen of them all. Among these other underwater creatures are "fabulous goblins", and water spirits known to ancient Scottish history as "kelpies" which is still another term for water horses. In the year 1570, the records tell of "a monstrous fish, seen in Lochfyne." Still another report describes "a floating island," which could have been a monster out for a swim.

Sir Walter Scott wrote in 1815 that "a monster, long reported to inhabit Cauldshields Loch, has of late been visible to sundry persons, appearing more like a cow or a horse." Later on, Scott again referred to this creature, reporting that some Scottish highlanders had resolved "to drag the monster into daylight," using two anchors as hooks baited with dog carcasses." But it didn't work.

In 1870, somebody got the bright idea of bringing up the monster by dragging the Loch with a net. All the school children were given the day off to help with the task, and other people came from miles around, not forgetting their whiskey bottles. The huge net was pulled by hundreds of willing hands on both sides of the Loch, but when it struck a snag, the crowd scrambled out of sight, fearful that Nessie would rise up out of the water in anger.

Over the years, descriptions of the "beast in the deep" have varied, ranging far and wide in adjectives. In 1880, a deep sea diver sought a glimpse of Nessie and encountered an underwater animal with "small, gray and baleful eyes."

Another sighting in the 19th Century was somewhat less complimentary and did nothing to encourage Nessie's vanity. The story went this way: "A noted demon once inhabited Loch Ness and was a source of terror to the neighborhood. Like other kelpies, it was in the habit of browsing along the roadside, all bridled and saddled, as if waiting for someone to mount. (Kelpies, or water-sprites, in the Scottish Highland legends, were also classified with water-horses). But whenever an unwary traveler did so, the kelpie took to its heels, and presently plunged into deep water with the victim on its back." Kelpies, it seems, delighted in drowning their riders.

Over the years, therefore, part of the Loch Ness legend has its resident monster prancing in and out of the water in the form of a horse. But it wasn't long before the monster's image became that of a sea serpent, as this item from the *Inverness Courier* (1856) attests:

> THE SEA SERPENT IN THE HIGHLANDS.—The village of Leurbost, parish of Lochs, Lewis, is at present the scene of an unusual occurrence. This is no less than the appearance in one of the inland fresh water lakes of an animal which from its great size and dimensions has not a little puzzled our island naturalists. Some suppose him to be a description of the hitherto mythological water-kelpie; while others refer it to the minute descriptions of the "sea serpent," which are revived from time to time in newspaper columns. It has been repeatedly seen within the last fortnight by crowds of people, many of whom have come from the remotest parts of the parish to witness the uncommon spectacle. The animal is described by some as being in appearance and size like a "huge peat stack," while others affirm that a "six-oared boat" could pass between the huge fins, which are occasionally visible. All, however, agree, in describing its form as that of the eel; and we have heard one, whose evidence we can rely upon, state that in length he supposed it to be about 40 feet. It is probable that it is no more than a conger eel after all, animals of this description having been caught in Highland lakes which have attained a huge size. He is currently reported to have swallowed a blanket inadvertently left on the bank of the lake by a girl herding cattle. A sportsman ensconced himself with a rifle in the vicinity of the loch during a whole day, hoping to get a shot, but did no execution.

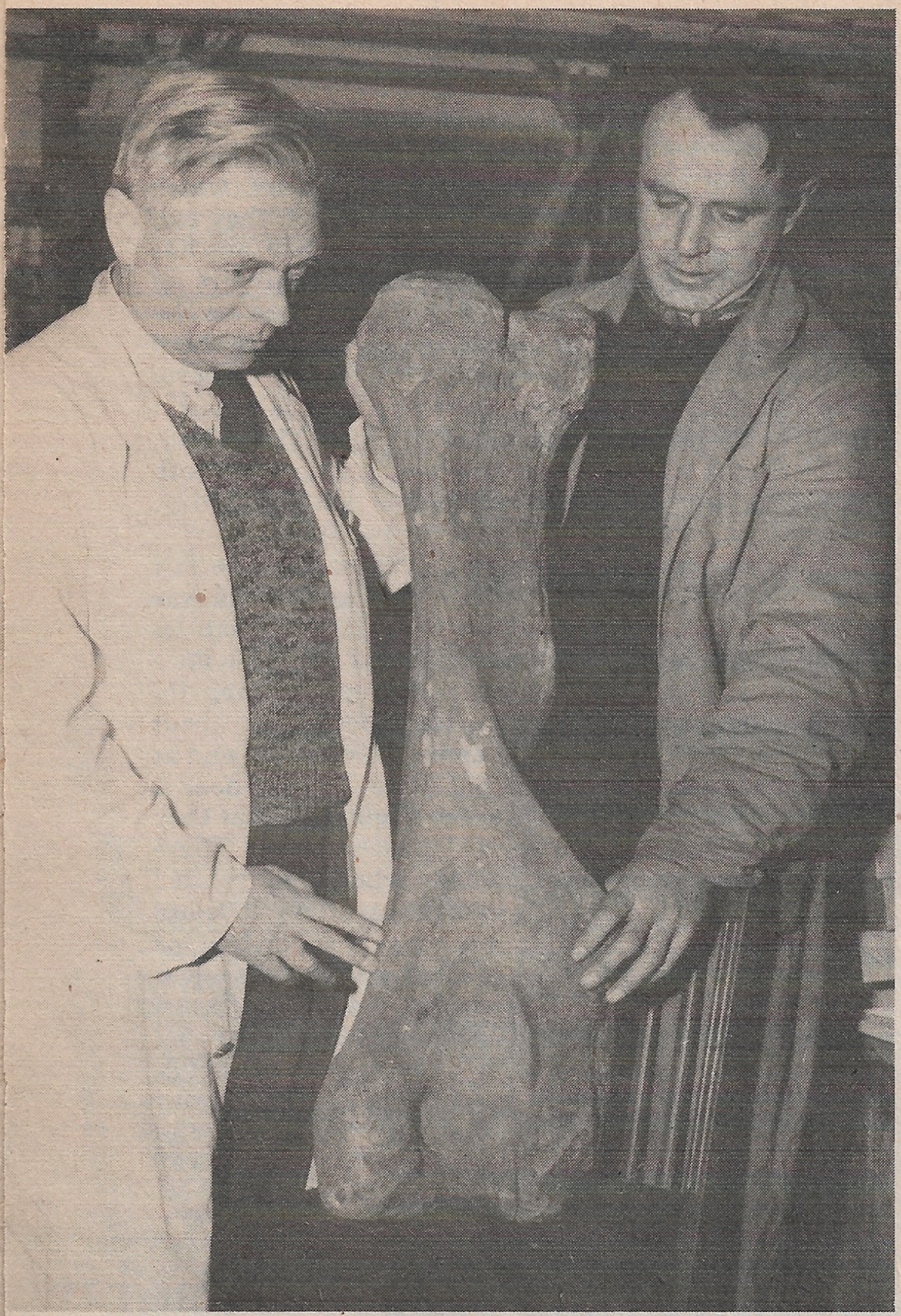
The creatures, monsters, or whatever they were, often turned up in other Scottish Highland lakes in addition to Loch Ness, the home of the most fabled monster of them all. As we have seen, Sir Walter Scott, as far back as 1810, was fascinated with reports of strange animals in Scotland's lakes. And in his book, *Memoirs of An Ex-Minister*, England's Lord Malmesbury, tells of sighting something in a loch in the year 1857:

> "October 3rd—This morning my stalker and his boy gave me an account of a mysterious creature, which they say exists in Loch Arkaig, and which they call the lake-horse. It is the same animal of which one has occasionally read accounts in the newspapers of having been seen in the Highland lochs, and on the existence of which in Loch Assynt, the late Lord Ellesmere wrote an interesting article, but hitherto the story has always been looked upon as fabulous. I am now, however, persuaded of its truth. My stalker, John Stuart of Achnacarry, has seen it twice, and both times at sunrise in summer on a bright sunny day, when there was not a ripple on the water.
>
> "The creature was basking on the surface; he saw only the head and hindquarters, proving its back was hollow, which is not the shape of any fish or seal. Its head resembled that of a horse. It was also seen once by his three little children, who were walking together along the beach. It was then motionless, about thirty yards from shore and apparently asleep, and at first they took it for a rock, but when they got near it moved its head, and they were so frightened that they ran home, arriving in a state of greatest terror. There was no mistaking their manner when they related this story, and they offered to make an affidavit before a magistrate. The Highlanders are very superstititous about this creature. They are convinced there is never more than one in existence at the same time, and I believe they think it has something diabolical in its nature, for when I said I wished I could get a shot of it, my stalker observed very gravely, 'Perhaps your Lordship's, gun would misfire.' It would be quite possible, but very difficult, for a seal to work its way up the river Lochy into Loch Arkaig."

This is the way our monster of legend looks on a postcard, one of those the Loch Ness tourists buy and send back to hometowns.

As late as 1895, James McKinley turned his attention towards an analysis of just what the people of Scotland's Highlands were seeing. He wrote:

> 'So far we have dealt with water-spirits more or less human in form. Another class consists of those with the shape of horses and bulls. The members of this class are connected especially with Highland districts. Lonely lochs were their favorite haunt. In tree-less regions a belief in such creatures would naturally arise. Any ordinary animal in such an environment



Was this a monster of old? The leg bone of an ancient mammoth was found by trawl fishermen off Denmark's Langeland Island. At Copenhagen's Zoological Museum, Dr. M. Degerboel (at left) says the 220-pound bone was found in a Glacial Age deposit.

would appear of a larger size than usual and the eye of the beholder would transmit the error to his imagination thereby further magnifying the creature's bulk. In some instances the notion might arise even when there was no animal on the scene. A piece of rock, or some other physical feature of the landscape, would be enough to excite superstitious fancies."

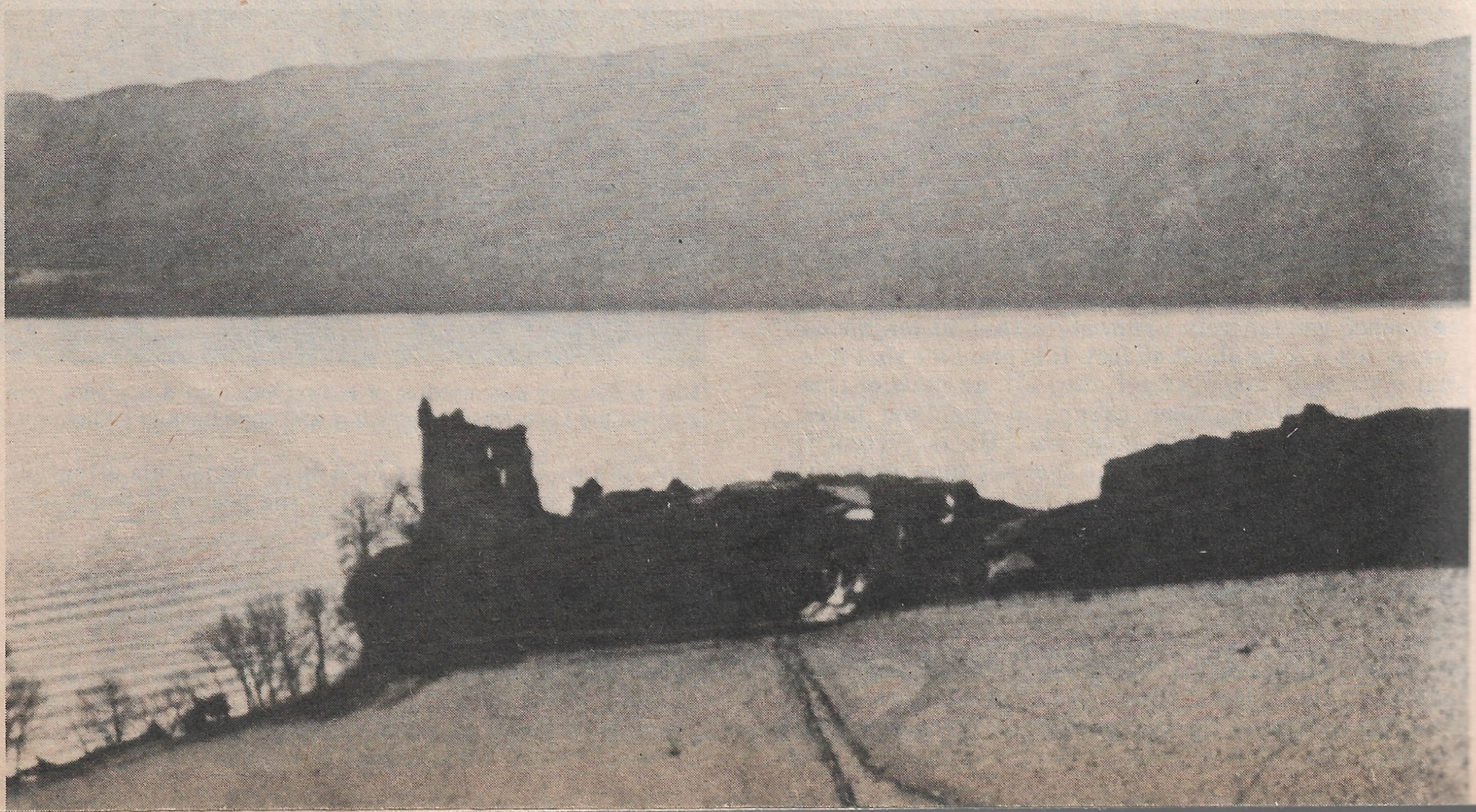
But perhaps one of the most remarkable sightings of the 19th Century came on April 11, 1811, when an inhabitant of Edinburgh, on his way to Glasgow, saw an animal of "extraordinary size and shape, and he fled as far as his legs could carry him to the nearest village. The account continues:

> "A daring party of villagers set forth with guns. They soon discovered the animal by the noise it was making and one of them went boldly ahead of his more cautious companions and got near enough to fire at it. The bullet glanced off the creature's scaly side without doing it any harm. The animal then made for its assailant who fled to where his companions lay concealed. They determined to set fire to the heather—whereon the monster made for the sea. The bravest of the pursuers ran after it, discharging their muskets. The first discharge caused it to stagger and the second brought it down. The weight of the animal was such that it was impossible to carry it away whole. The villagers cut it into pieces, getting several barrels of oil from the carcass. The forelegs of the animal resembled those of a camel and its hindlegs those of a horse. It had a bull's head and a scaly body."

The legends of Loch Ness become even more intriguing after reading a letter which Mr. Howard L. Oleck of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, wrote the *New York Times* on June 4, 1976. Mr. Oleck's viewpoint is this:

"The Loch Ness monsters story may well have a real historical origin in the emotions of the Scots who first saw Viking dragon ships gliding through the midst of their "loch" more than a thousand years ago. Dragon figureheads, rising high above the low-slung longships, plus the bloody killings and taking of slaves by the Norsemen, plus the old Norse word *ness* which means island, but was used by the Vikings to designate water-guarded safe haven islands, plus the embroidery of yarns repeated for centuries, may be the real story of the Loch Ness monsters."

Standing like a sentinel overlooking Loch Ness, ancient Urquhart Castle is an important checkpoint for monster watchers.



Jessie Tait Takes A Picture

All Scotland Was Asking: Could This Be the Monster?

Photos by BEAVERBROOK NEWSPAPERS

Level-headed housewife Jessie Tait, a woman of absolute integrity, stood on the banks of Loch Ness and took one of the best pictures yet of the monster.

(As Reported by the LONDON SUNDAY EXPRESS)

On Saturday, August 16th, 1969, Mrs. Jessie Tait, wife of Mr. John Tait who is clerk of the Agriculture Department in Inverness, left her home on Borlum Road in the family car for a trip along the shores of Loch Ness. With her were two friends, Misses Joan and Phemie Ross, who were visiting her from Skye.

"We went for a run along the lochside," said Mrs. Tait. "It was pouring with rain. But it cleared as we got past Dores. At various lay-bys we stopped, looked at the loch and admired the scenery. When we were stopped at this point, near Foyers, the car was parallel with the loch.

"Then Miss Joan Ross saw something out of the corner of her eye. She said: "There's the monster."

"I looked at the loch and saw this peculiar thing. I thought, *'My God— it is.'*

"All I did was go to the glove compartment, grab the camera, and jump out of the car. I just started taking pictures until the camera jammed. I didn't even know there were only three exposures left.

"I realized I had at least one good picture—that there was something in the loch that needed explaining. We were all excited. When I looked again, there was still some movement on the water.

"I can't honestly say I saw six humps, but what I can recall is that what I saw was very distinct. I'm not saying it was the monster. All I'm saying—and I'd stake my honour and reputation on it—is that I saw something moving in the loch, something not natural, something that could not be explained by a wake or a log. It was something moving down the loch."

While Mrs. Tait was frantically taking pictures, her friends were taking a close look at the object.

At their home in Coolin Drive, overlooking the harbour at Portree, in the Isle of Skye, the middle-aged unmarried Ross sisters flatly rejected suggestions that the object was the wake of a passing boat. Miss Phemie Ross said: "My father and his father and all our family are seafaring people. You might say we have been brought up by the sea. Do you think I do not know the difference between something moving in the water and the wash of a boat?"

"There *was* something in the water, moving down the loch towards Fort Augustus. What it was I do not know. But it was not the wash from a boat."

Miss Joan Ross, who teaches at Edinbane, in the North-West of Skye, said: "It passed right in front of us. At first we were so flabbergasted we could only stand and stare.

"I could see six humps. I counted them over and over again to be sure I was seeing right. The humps seemed to be about 10 feet long. The object was moving down the loch at a bit faster than a quick walking speed.

Then it submerged. The humps disappeared from sight and as each one went down it left a little whirl, an eddy on the water. Then that disappeared and the loch was as smooth as it had been."

She added: "I never thought there was anything in the Loch Ness Monster story before. But now I will say there is definitely something in the loch. What it was I just don't know, but we saw something in the water, something alive, and it was most definitely not the wake from a boat."

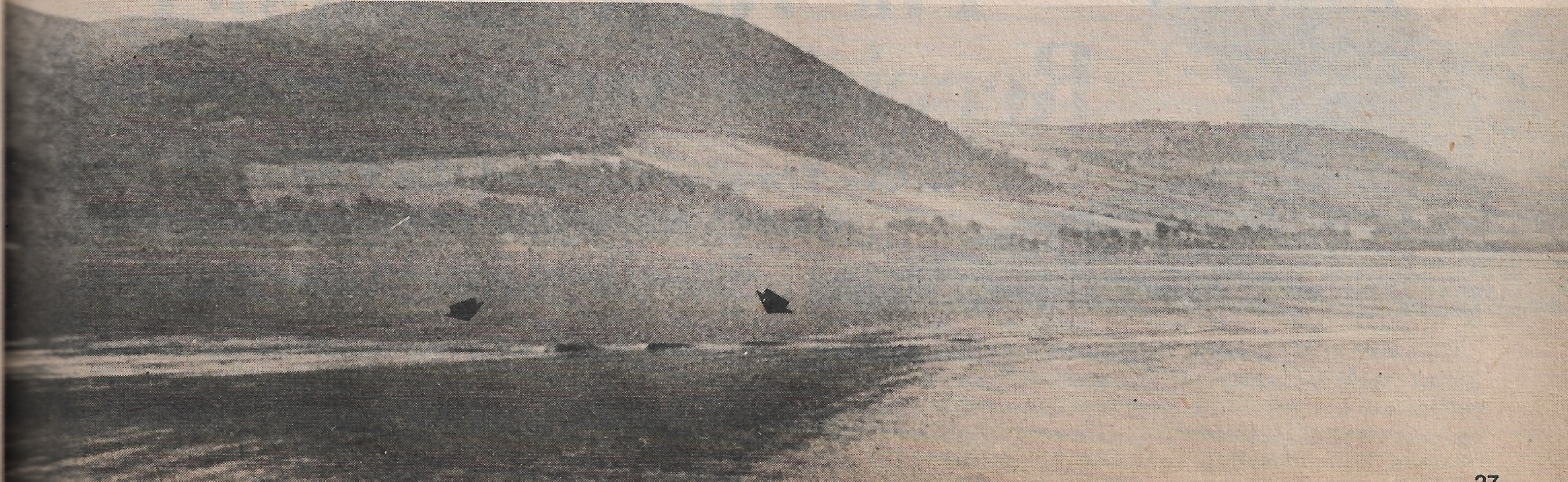
While Mrs. Tait was engrossed with her camera, the Ross sisters had by far the best view of the monster.

All three were emphatic that there was no boat within sight on the loch.

An assessment of their credibility was given by a friend who knows them well. "They are cultured and well-educated people who don't mix a lot and don't have a lot to say for themselves. But if they say they saw something in the water, then they saw something in the water."

So there it is. A simple, straightforward story by three women. What do you think? *Was it the Monster?*

Three humps are seen moving serenely through Loch Ness waters in the early morning mist. One of the better Nessie photos.



The calm waters of Loch Ness as they appeared, no doubt, that December morning of 1954 when a fishing trawler made contact with a strange underwater creature, perhaps the elusive Nessie.

The *Rival's* Skipper Receives An Echogram

As the Trawler Cleaved the Smooth Waters of Loch Ness One December Morning, Something Stirred Below

On a day in May, 1914, the graduating class at Friends School in Washington, D. C., gathered for their final undergraduate session to hear a commencement address by none other than the distinguished inventor, Alexander Graham Bell. Standing tall with his white beard and sun-tanned face, he opened his address with something much more interesting than the usual "go-out-and-redeem-the-world" exhortations. Instead, he asked:

"Did you ever put your head underwater and chuck two stones together to see what the sound is like?"

Then, as his audience listened intently, Dr. Bell told of doing just that as a boy, and also of sending a friend across the bay to clack stones together and how the noise was clearly heard underwater from a distance of a half mile. Then the telephone's creator continued:

"There is a whole world of sound beneath the waves waiting to be explored. I have often thought I should like to go on the banks of Newfoundland and fish with a telephone. If you were to send a transmitter down among the codfish with bait, perhaps you would find something there to hear. I have never tried it. I leave that to you.

"Three quarters of the earth's surface is underwater and has not been explored to any great degree. The only way we have of reaching the mountains and valleys at the bottom of the sea is by sending down a sounding line and bringing up a specimen of the bottom attached to the sinker. It is no joke, however, to reach the bottom of the deep blue sea through one mile, or even two miles, of water and it takes several hours to make a single sounding.

"Why should we not send down a sound instead and listen to an echo from the bottom? Knowing the velocity of sound in water (average of 4,920 feet a second) and the time taken for the echo to reach the ear, we should be able to ascertain the depth of the deepest part of the ocean in seconds instead of hours."

Dr. Bell's theory of echo sounding had already been tried with some success, as early as 1911, by both French and Russian physicists. Others were to pursue the perfection of the idea, and by the early 1930s, fishing trawlers began returning to port with vast hauls, caught with the aid of echo-sounders which precisely pin-pointed where to cast the nets.

Could the Loch Ness monster possibly be caught with the aid of an echo-sounder? It was a good question and it came very close to being answered in 1954. Just how it happened—or almost happened—is well told in James Dugan's definitive book, "Man Under the Sea" (Collier Books, New York, 1965):

"The Peterhead trawler, the *Rival*, cleared the smooth waters of Loch Ness one December morning in 1954, bound for the Caledonian Canal and the western fishing grounds. The skipper and crew were below at elevenses, leaving Peter Anderson, the mate, at the helm. He switched on the fish detector (i.e., echo-sounder) and idly watched it sketching Chinese brush drawings of crags on the floor of the loch. The stylus arm swept across the unreeling graph paper, cartooning a slope going down to 540 feet. Anderson noticed a black form taking shape 180 feet above the floor. He watched it closely for it was too black and sharp to be a fish school. A fairytale presence appeared before his eyes. It was a dragon with a head and an antenna, or horns, then forefeet, the thickened body, then a Jurassic spike from the spine.

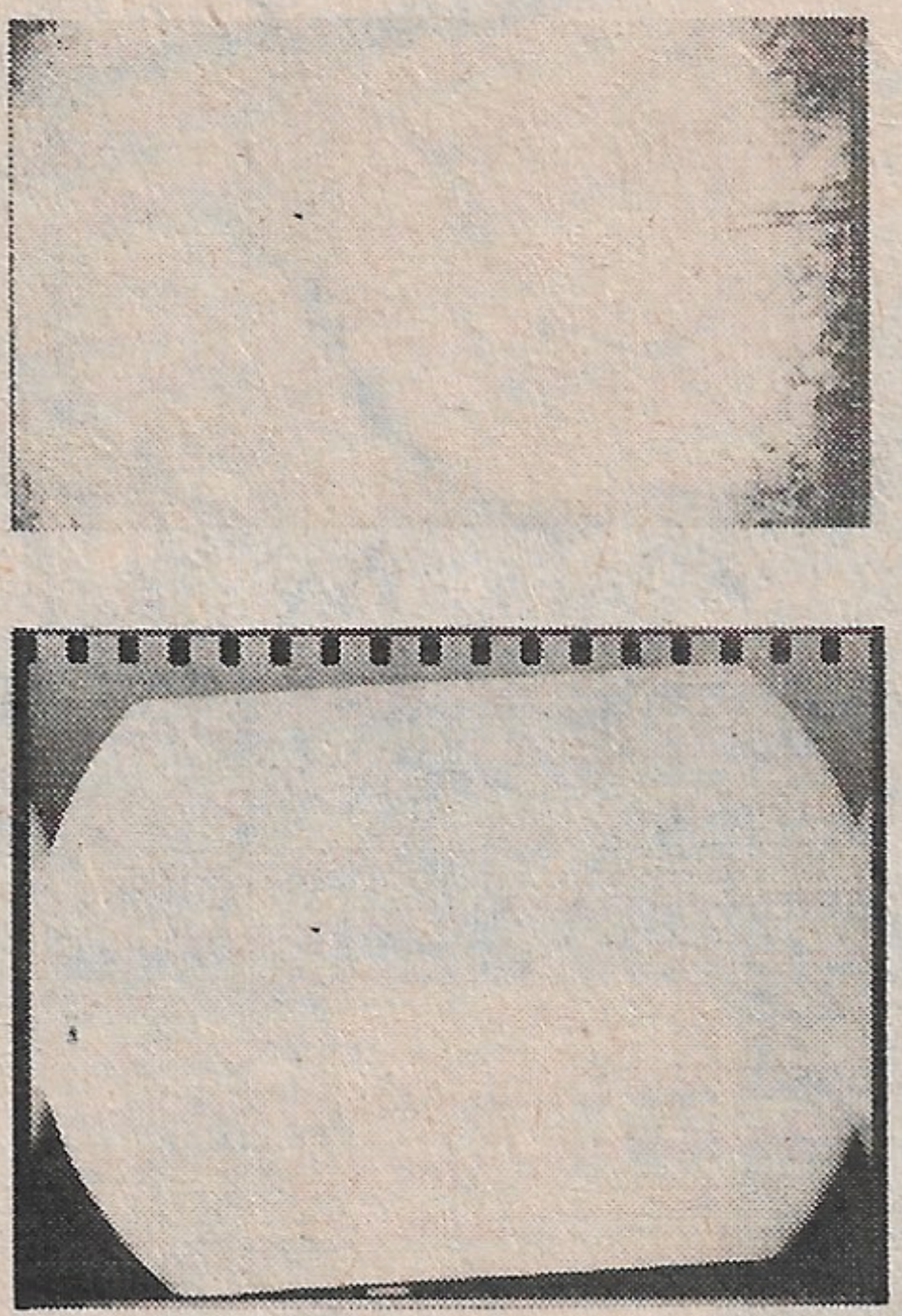
" 'I couldn't believe my eyes', said Anderson. 'I shouted to the crew and they came crowding up to the wheelhouse.' They saw the stylus continue the caricature—two more sets of legs, two more dorsal projections, a long curling tail. The paper calibrations showed it to be 50 feet long. The stylus drew a blank and scaled another Chinese peak. Peter Anderson turned his helm hard over and ran back on the same course. They watched the sounder. Nothing showed between the two crags.

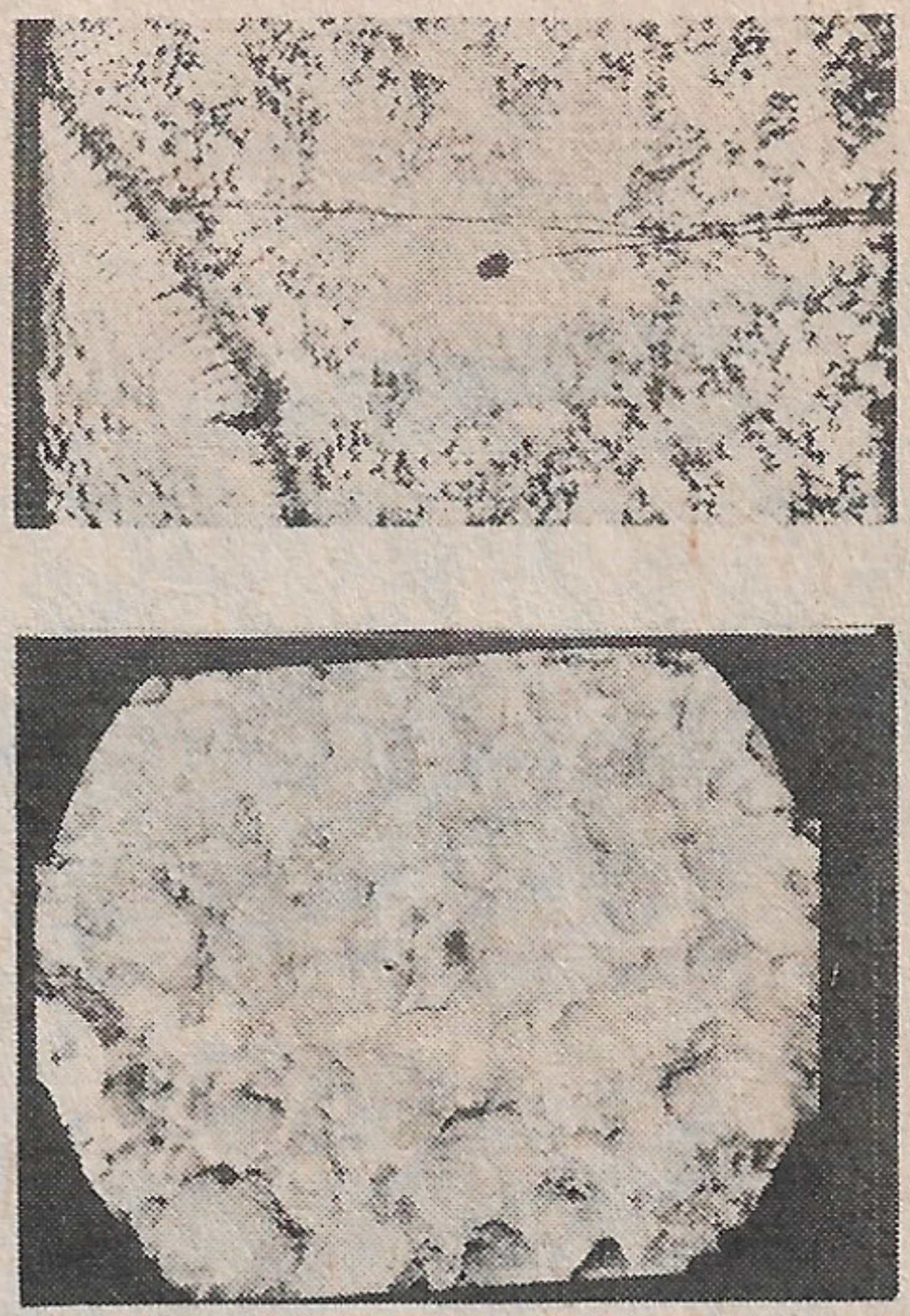
"They tore the trace out of the roll and studied it. The scrap of paper got wrinkled and dirty. In Peterhead, the first people they showed it to said, 'It's Nessie! It's the Loch Ness Monster!'

"Some joked and hinted that the pawed paper was a hoax. The trawlermen bristled and took the document to I. A. Southcott, an echo-sound expert of Kelvin & Hughes, Ltd., manufacturers of their detection set. 'The paper and ink are definitely genuine,' he stated. 'I can certify that it hasn't been tampered with in any way It is a true impression of an object. This is definitely animal matter of some kind, proved by the fact that echoes from the sounding machine have passed right through the object on to the loch bed below. This object certainly isn't a whale or any other kind of fish that has been charted.' This view was further confirmed by Dr. H. Slack, of Glasgow University, who looked at *Rival's* echogram and said, 'It certainly could be an animal of some kind, but its bone structure and general shape are unlike anything of which we have knowledge.' "

And that's the story of how the *Rival* received an echogram. There's also a sequel, of sorts. Four years later, in 1958, a British Broadcasting Company crew made similar depth soundings and they came up with an unusual reading which showed the presence of a large body in Loch Ness.

NASA's New Underwater Photographic Technique


Original Photos


Enhanced Photos

A photographic technique developed by NASA for use in unmanned planetary exploration and satellite Earth resources monitoring now makes it easier for marine scientists to explore the ocean bottom for mineral wealth and to study its environment and detailed topography. The technique, called "computer image processing," was developed by planetary scientists at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory at Pasadena, Calif. With the aid of a computer, space scientists remove blemishes, apply radiometric and geometric corrections and improve detail in undersea photographs and side-looking sonar imagery.

Unenhanced deep-sea photographs taken with either normal or wide-angle 35 mm lenses suffer from uneven illumination, or are marked by strobe-shield shadows that require additional time consuming processing. Computer image processing brings out the latent features and details not distinguishable by conventional photo processing methods, by filtering and removing shadows. The process also improves the sharpness of the peripheral areas of photographs so sea-bottom mosaics can be constructed. Similar processing techniques have been successfully applied to side-scan sonar imagery. This use of digital data processing and storage techniques greatly extends the quantity of information than can be handled, stored and processed.

Computer image processing has been used by NASA scientists in remote sensing experiments with the Earth orbiting Skylab and Landsat satellites and various weather satellites, as well as low and high-flying aircraft. It's application to non-space technology is another in a growing list of examples of how space technology is working for the benefit of all mankind.

THE MONSTER

he bleak, and often dreary, Scottish landscape on both sides of Loch Ness provides an appropriate setting for any land excursions Nessie may deign to launch herself upon on occasion.

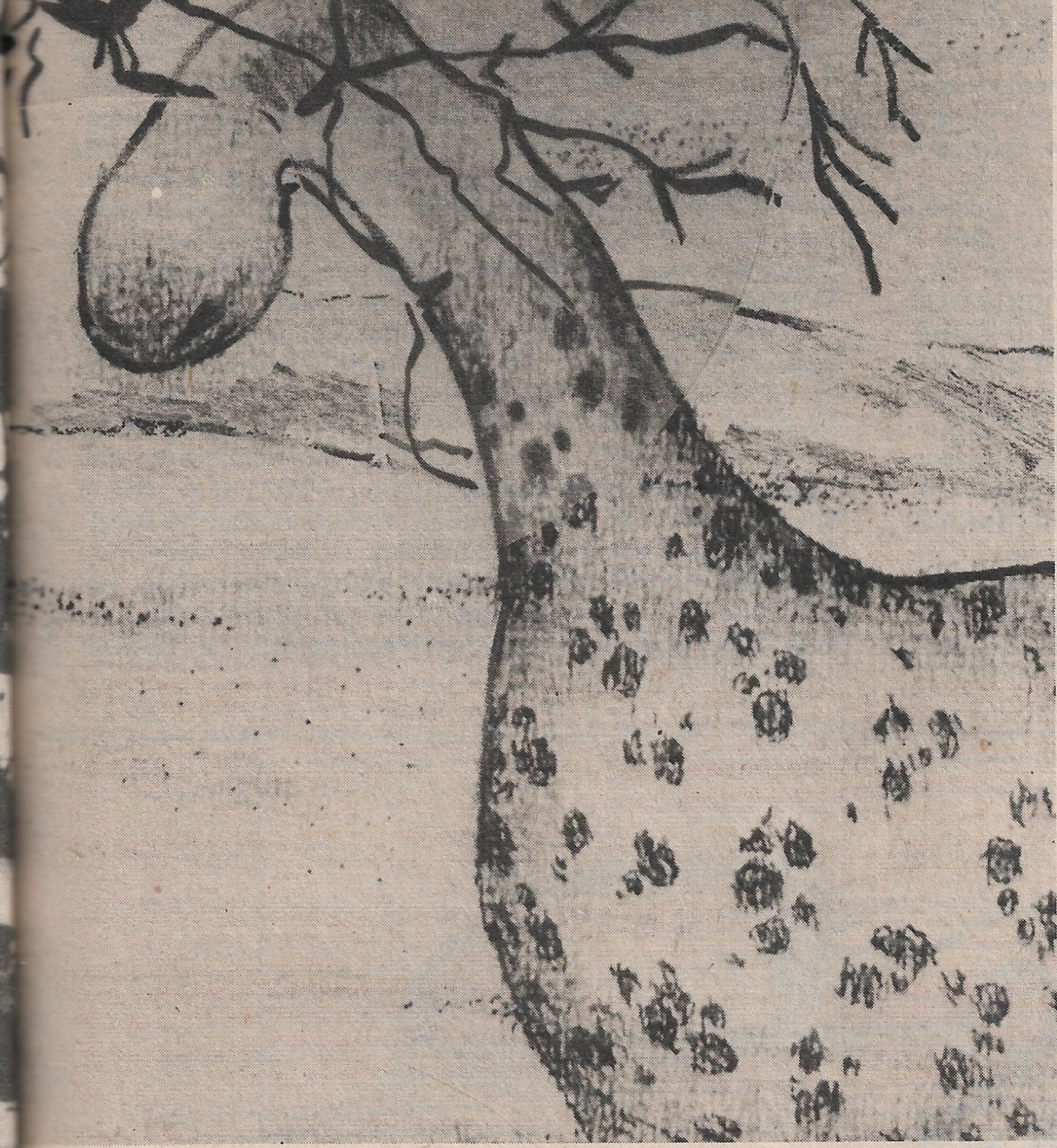
During the past half-century, the Loch Ness Monster has been prowling the land along the lake's two shores, terrifying young and old alike with weird and unnatural physical features variously described as "frightening," and "horrible," or just plain "interesting." Between 1870 and 1960, for instance, there were at least 17 verified reports of the monster coming ashore.

Perhaps, its first modern landing occurred during the busy sighting year of 1933 when, on the afternoon of July 22nd, Mr. George Spicer and his wife were driving south along the lake road between Inverness and Foyers. Shortly after leaving Whitefield, and while driving up a slight incline, a huge animal, with physical features they had never before seen, suddenly appeared in the brush up ahead on their left side. The creature had a plump body, a long neck, and moved across the road ahead of them in "jerks." The animal, or whatever it was, then disappeared in the brush near the lake's shore on the Spicers' right, vanishing, it seems, before they had a chance to get a closer look. Mr. Spicer, a London business man, told a newman, as reported in *The Great Orm of Loch Ness* by F. W. Holiday (W. W. Norton & Co., New York, 1969):

"When my wife exclaimed, 'What on earth is that?', I looked ahead and observed the most extraordinary form of an animal crossing the road. It was horrible—an abomination. First we saw an undulating sort of neck, a little thicker than an elephant's trunk. It did not move in the usual reptilian fashion but, with three arches in its neck, it shot across the road until a ponderous body about four feet high came into view. When we reached the part of the road it had crossed, we stopped, but there was no sign of it. It had been a loathsome sight. . . . It was terrible. Its color, as far as the body was concerned, could be called a dark elephant grey. It looked like a huge snail with a long neck. I reported the affair to various scientific bodies all of whom seemed to be incredulous. I am willing to take an oath, and so is my wife, that we saw this Loch Ness beast."

A week or so later, the *Inverness Courier* published a letter from Mr. Spicer in which he described the creature as a "prehistoric animal . . . with a long neck that moved up and down in the manner of a scenic railway, and the body was fairly big with a high back." He added that the monster seemed to be from "6 to eight feet long and it appeared to be carrying a small lamb or animal of some kind." Later, Mr. Spicer revised his estimate of length, saying, "After having ascertained the width of the road, and giving the matter thought in every way, I afterwards came to the conclusion that the creature I saw must have

COMES ASHORE!



As Long As Nessie Remained Out In the Water, She Was No Problem; That Changed When She Took A Walk

A land-roving Nessie might look like this, considering several eyewitness reports which describe the monster as having a "giraffe-like neck." Artist Mel Boden made this graphic sketch.

been at least 25 feet in length." (The London *Sunday Times* of Dec. 17, 1933, quoted Mr. Spicer as saying the creature was "about 300 feet long." But this turned out to be a typographical error which was duly corrected to "30 feet" in the next day's newspaper.)

Perhaps one of the most talked-about land sightings occurred early on the morning of January 5th, 1934, when a young medical student, Arthur Grant, was riding the lake highway on a motorcycle, enroute to his parents' home at Drumnadrochit. The sky was somewhat overcast, but bright moonlight alternately lit up the lochside and, as Grant whirled his machine into Abriachan, he suddenly spotted a dark object lurking in the bushes on the road's right-hand side. Then, "something," as he put it, "bounded in front of my motorcycle, making it across the road in two leaps and disappearing into the brush that lined the loch shore at that point." Grant gave a vivid description of the creature that interrupted his journey:

"I had a splendid view of the object. In fact, I almost struck it with my motorcycle. It had a long neck and large oval-shaped eyes on the top of a small head. The tail would be from 5 to 6 feet long and very powerful . . . Total length of the animal would be 15 to 20 feet. Knowing something of natural history, I can say that I had never seen anything in my life like the animal I saw. It looked like a hybrid—a cross between a pleiosaur and a member of the seal family."

Leaping off his motorcycle, Grant gave chase to the creature but arrived at the shore just in time to see his quarry disappearing beneath the water with a resounding splash. And later, he added a few notes to the animal's description, to wit: "A head rather like a snake or an eel, flat on top, the large oval eye, longish neck and somewhat longer tail. The body was much thicker toward the tail than the front portion. In color, it was black or dark brown and had a skin rather like a whale."

During the first week of August (the year was 1933), Mr. T. McLennan and her husband were walking toward their boat which was moored along the lakeside road between Whitefield and Foyers. That section of the loch's shore consists of a series of flat beaches from which the shore itself extends upwards to the road in a more or less steep incline—with the highway overlooking the water from an average height of about 35 feet.

It was precisely at a moment when she was looking toward the loch—her eyes also taking in the land below—that Mrs. McLennan saw the "hunched-up thing" lying on the beach with its head resting towards the water. According to her account, the creature's back looked "ridged, something like an elephant's," having a similar color but, unlike an elephant, it sported "several humps." Years later, Mrs. McLennan gave Maurice Burton this description of the animal:

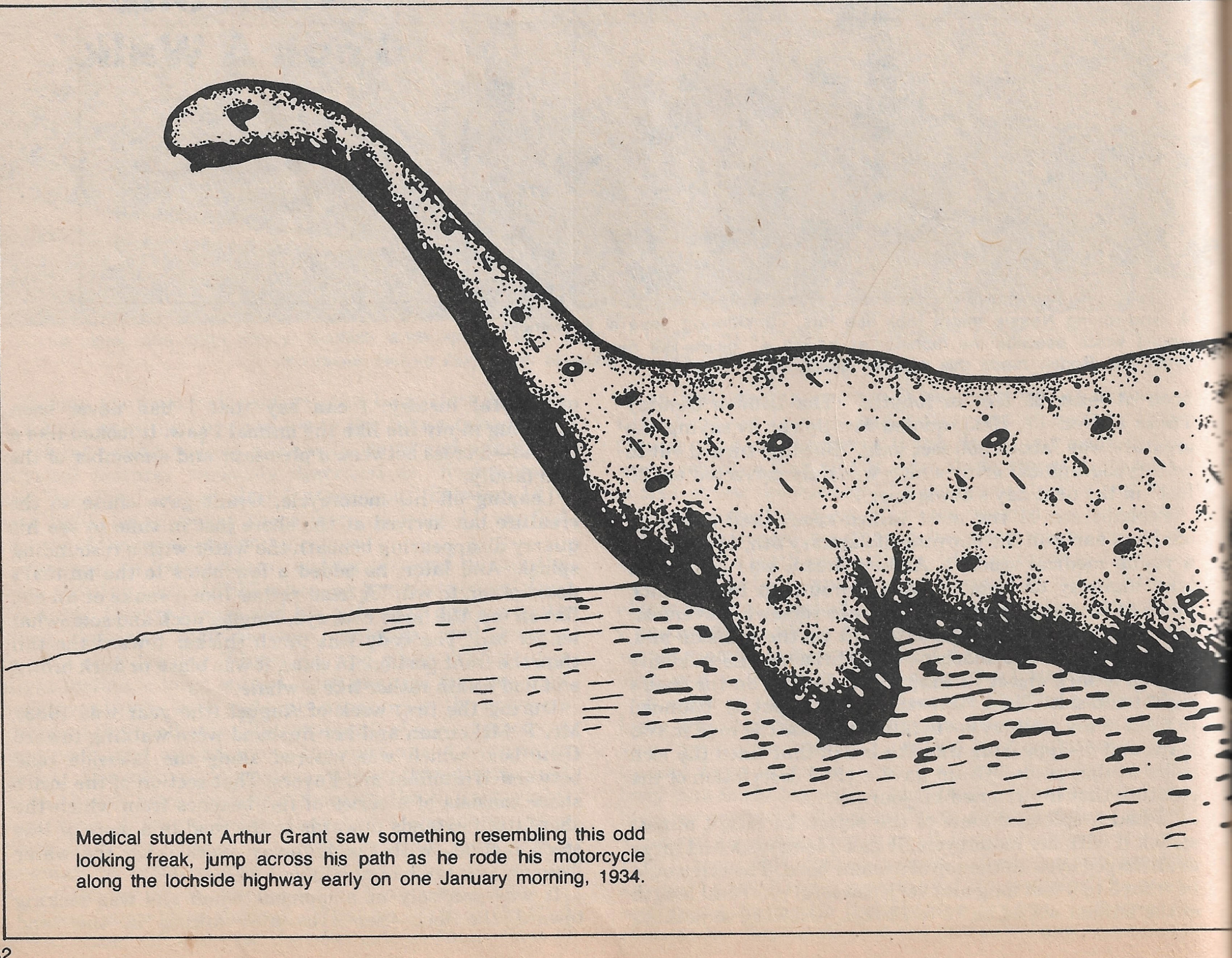
"It had short, thick, clumsy legs, but most decidedly legs with a kind of hoof very much like a pig's, but much larger . . . It didn't seem to have any ears, but believe me it could hear . . . It lurched itself up on the two forelegs (it had four legs), then slithered its hoofs forward over the cliff . . . It did not stand up like, say, a cow. It kept the hind-legs on the ground seal-wise. Its body seemed to be too heavy for its own legs. It went down quietly with a great splash. The ripples were all my boys saw, thanks to my yell."

In his book, "In Search of Sea Monsters" (Berkley Medallion Books, New York, 1975), Peter Costello recounts several other land sightings of the monster that occurred during the 1930's and before. In October, 1933, William MacGruer, a life-long resident of Fort Augustus, used the columns of the *Inverness Courier* to tell a strange story. "Some 20 years earlier," he related, "about the year 1912, a party of five children, ages 10 to 12, set out to hunt for birds and their nests in the scrublands of Inchnacardoch Bay. Not far from the road, they saw a queer-looking creature emerge from some bushes and make for the loch, only a few yards away, and disappear into the water. Mr. MacGruer recalled the animal reminded them of nothing so much as a camel. It had a long neck, a humped back and fairly long legs. It was, however, considerably smaller than a camel, but the coat was almost the same color, a sort of sandy pale yellow. The children ran quickly home, where their excitement showed that this was no fairy tale. Mr. MacGruer's parents remembered the incident perfectly, and though they had scoffed at the time, were now inclined to believe in the monster."

The London *Times* (in 1936) published a letter from Colonel Guy Liddell who recalled that, back in 1919, a Mrs. Peter Cameron had seen the monster basking on land while on a visit to a youth hostel at Inchnacardoch Bay. At that time, she was a girl of 15, and one Sunday afternoon in September she and her two young brothers were playing near the boat house at the hostel—known as Inchnacardoch House. At this point, the loch is very shallow and, with surprise, the children spotted an animal on the shore of the marshland opposite them. Even as they watched, the monster was slithering its way down into the water, "humping its shoulders and twisting its head from side to side." Heavy in its elephantine movements, the long neck and small head, by contrast, reminded Mrs. Cameron of a camel, especially its light color and four legs.

When the frightened children fled home, their Scottish parents heard their story, then solemnly warned that "the Devil would have them for gathering nuts on the Sabbath!"

Again in 1933, in December, the monster was seen invading the *terra firma* near the loch. Mrs. Reid, wife of the postmaster at Inverfarigaig, while driving into Inverness, glanced toward a wooded slope and saw "something strange" lying there in a glade. Partly obscured by the surrounding vegetation and some 100 yards away, her view was somewhat hampered. Nonetheless, she reported



Medical student Arthur Grant saw something resembling this odd looking freak, jump across his path as he rode his motorcycle along the lochside highway early on one January morning, 1934.

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seeing "what appeared to be a thick, hairy mane on the neck of a hairy beast." The length—6 to 7 feet—and the shape, like a hippopotamus, i.e., slow moving, a large rounded head, short bulky legs, and almost black in color.

On March 3, 1934, the *Glasgow Herald,* published an interview with two girls who had seen the monster on shore about a month previously. The sighting occurred near Fort Augustus while the two, Jean MacDonald and Patricia Harvey, were strolling down the loch road. Without warning, they were startled to see, in full moonlight, a strange creature cross a small creek which ran below, then head off toward loch itself. According to the *Herald,* "the girls described the creature as being from 8 to 10 feet long, with four feet. From the front two feet to top of the head was a height of about six feet, with the thickest part of the body appearing at the shoulder. The body tapered off considerably toward the tail. It had a distinctly dark color, with the under part of the neck perfectly white. The legs were short, but it moved with great rapidity, the girls being astonished at its speed as it headed towards the water. When in motion the creature made no sound, a fact which surprised the girls because of its bulk."

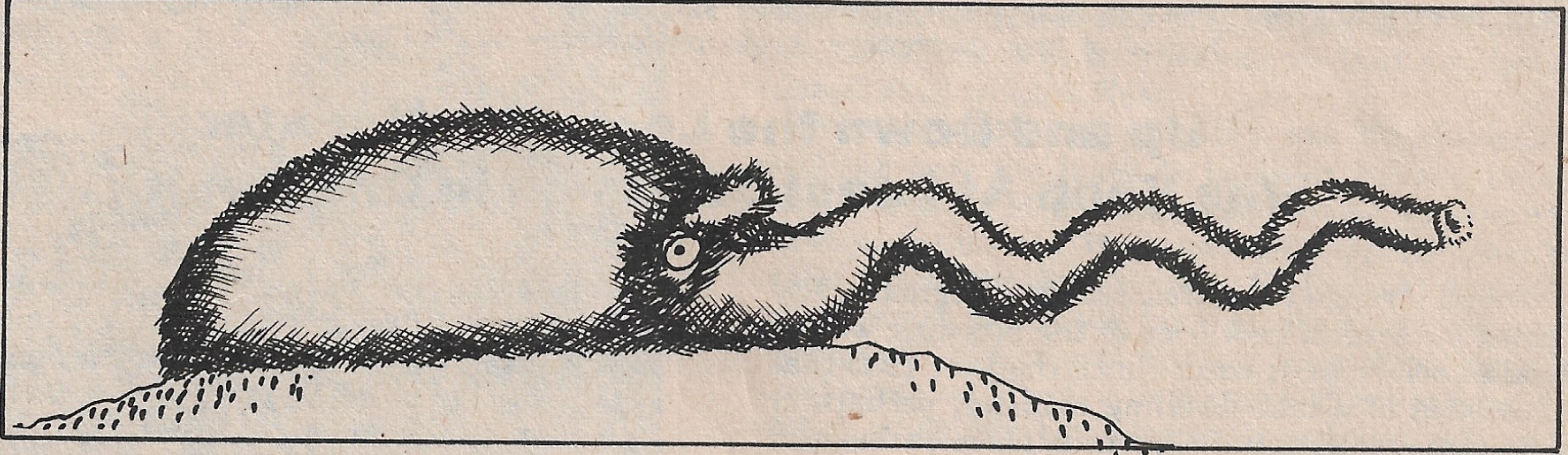
Peter Costello (in his book mentioned above) also recounts a sighting on land on Sunday morning in the summer of 1933. At about 6:30 a.m., Margaret Munro, a maid employed with the Plimleys at Kilchumein Lodge over looking the loch at Borlum Bay, "glanced out of the dining room window. About 300 yards away, lying on the bay shore, she saw the largest animal she had ever seen. For fully 25 minutes, she observed the creature through a pair of Mr. Plimley's binoculars. She later described it as having a 'griaffe-like neck, and an absurdly small head, out of all proportion to the great dark-grey body.' It turned itself this way and that, arching its back into two or more humps. At last lowering its head, it entered the water and swam away."

Miss Munro decided against awakening Mr. and Mrs. Plimley so early in the morning, but after she had told them what she had seen, the Plimleys hurried down to the loch's shore and there found a slight impression in the soil—into which a small branch had been pressed down.

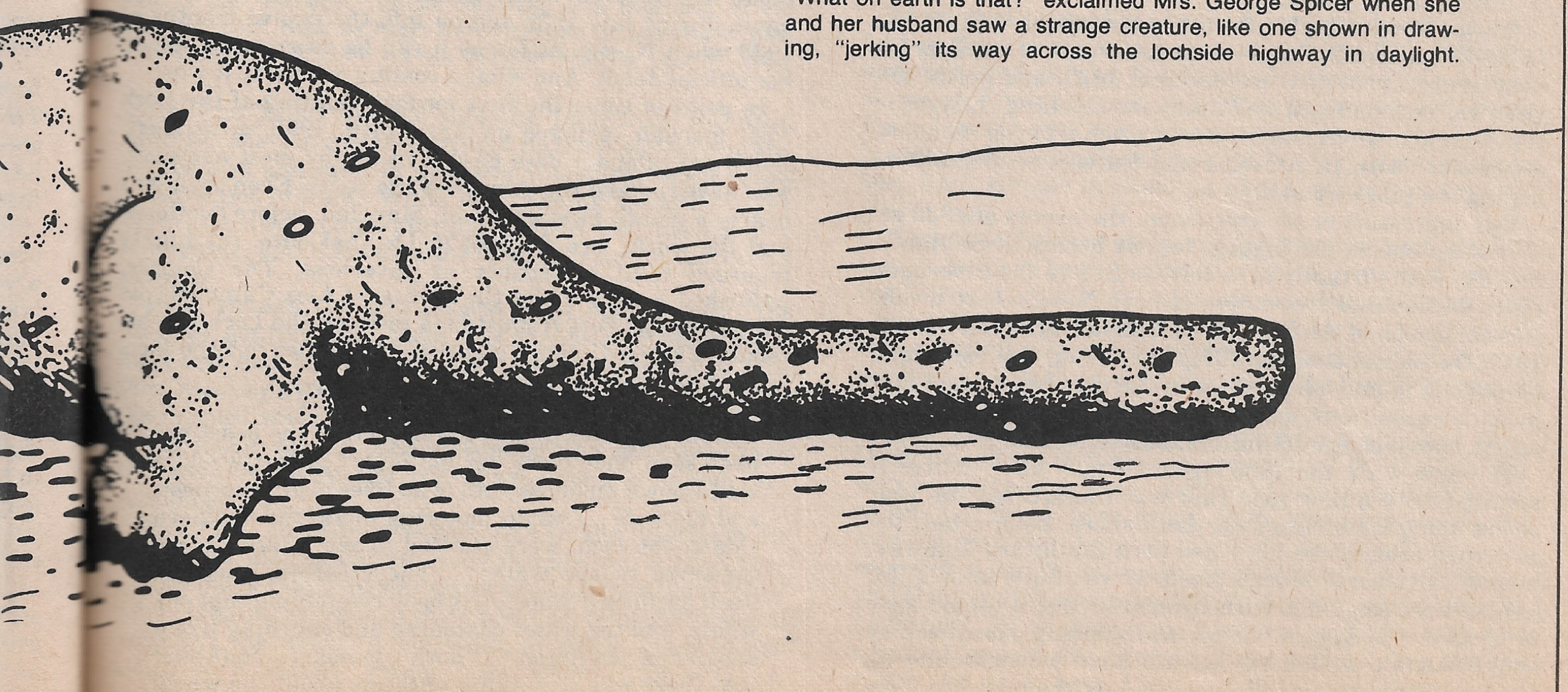
These incidents, and many others, only serve to prove that Nessie and her kin can be just as elusive on land, as they are in the water. ☐

Nessie Hears A "Beep-Beep"

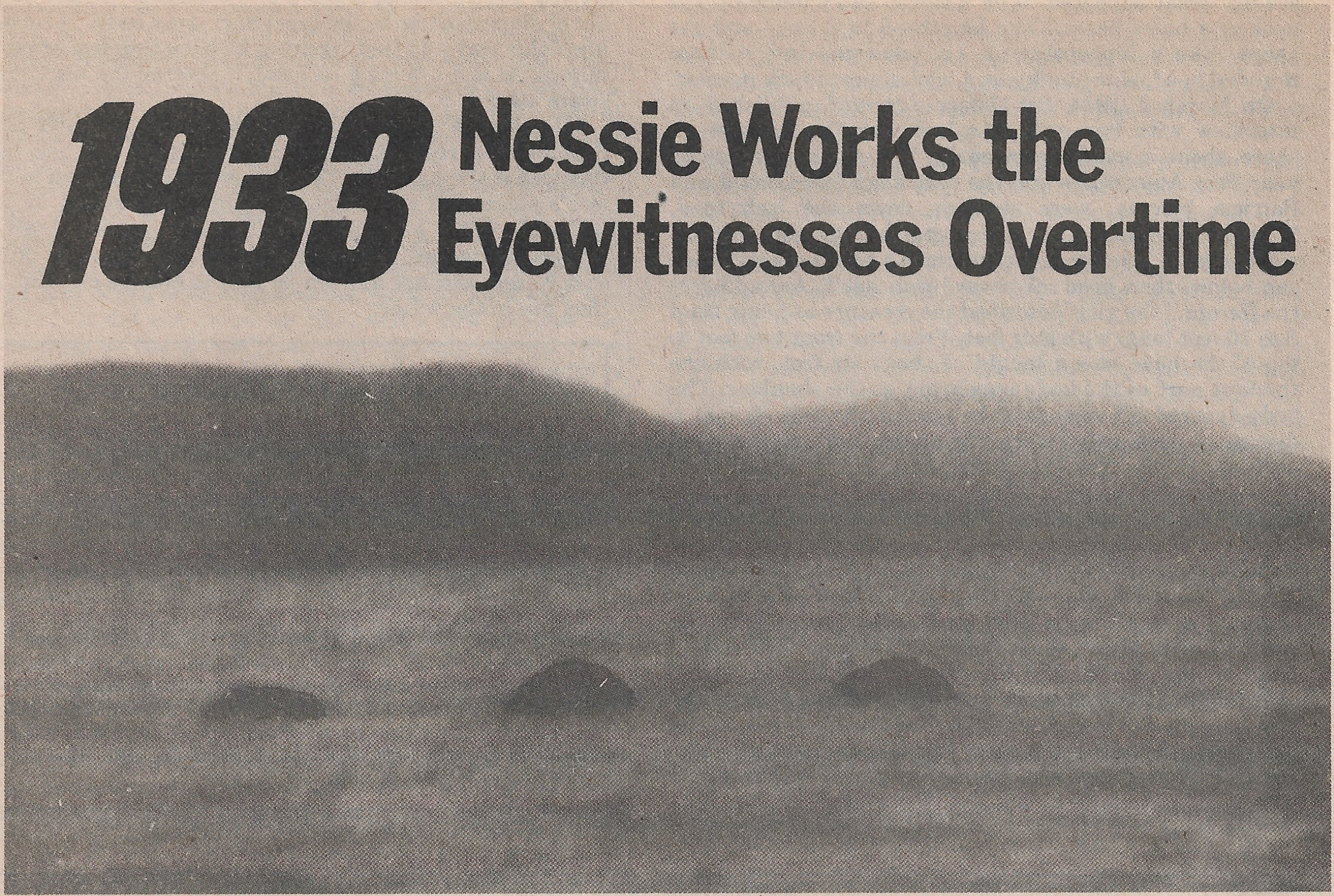
On December 27th, 1933, Mr. George Jamison was driving along the lochside highway when he spotted the monster swimming through the loch, moving in the same direction as his auto. Clearly visible, in what Mr. Jamison regarded as a good side view, were a head, neck and two humps that seemed to be "connected," or at least joined as part of the same animal. He described the skin as a "mottled gray-black," rough in texture, with the largest of the two humps rising several yards above the water. The swimming creature seemed to be about 18 feet long, but Jamison noticed a great deal of disturbance around and about, indicating quite a large portion of the animal was still beneath the surface. Finally, Jamison, according to his account of what happened, decided to "beep" his horn at the animal whereupon the creature turned, looked at the automobile, and then immediately sank out of sight.



"What on earth is that?" exclaimed Mrs. George Spicer when she and her husband saw a strange creature, like one shown in drawing, "jerking" its way across the lochside highway in daylight.



1933 Nessie Works the Eyewitnesses Overtime



BEAVERBROOK NEWSPAPERS

The 1933 "monster watchers" time and again described what they saw as "two or three black humps" moving through the Loch. Typical of their descriptions is this photo, made by an observer.

Up and Down the Loch, the Monster Was Seen At Least 52 Times in One Year...

Even though strange creatures, real or imaginary, had been sighted for several centuries in the brooding waters of Scotland's Loch Ness, it wasn't until the year 1933 that the phenomenon of a lake-dwelling monster, perhaps of prehistoric vintage, definitely found a place in modern civilized consciousness.

It was a year notable for other reasons as well. In the U.S.A., Franklin D. Roosevelt took the oath of office for his first term as president in March of 1933, and before the year was out, he instituted many far-reaching changes in the American government. It was a time, too, of economic depression, both in America and Europe, with Scotland feeling the pinch as well.

But depression or no depression, the events of 1933 set in motion one of the biggest tourist booms in Scotland's history, with virtually all roads leading to the Inverness-Shire section and the waters of Loch Ness, where dwells Nessie, Queen of the Scottish Monsters. And even now, in 1977, the tourist boom is still going strong, if not stronger, helped along and given shots-in-the-arm by at least four modern expeditions, each organized along scientific lines as the search continues for the elusive Nessie.

To begin with, the 1933 sightings may have indirectly resulted from a new road that was constructed the year before along Loch Ness's northern shore. Before that, the only road around the Loch had been a military highway, known as General Wade's Road. It was built after 1715, joining Fort Augustus with Inverness. But it wasn't easy to observe the Loch's waters while riding horseback or stagecoach along General Wade's Road which wound its way in and out of the hills surrounding the lake, the view often being blocked by huge rocks, trees and bushes. When construction of the modern road began, blasting crews went to work, dynamiting a path around the lake and opening up the view. And to this day, there are those who claim all that commotion "stirred up" the monster and made her nervous, sending her to the surface time and again during late 1932 and on into the twelve months of 1933 when Nessie, as far as it can be ascertained, made her official debut. And what a coming out party it was!

In point of time, the first modern sighting of the Loch Ness monster occurred on April 14th, 1933, or at least, that's the calendar date circled in red by most newsmen who have covered the story over the years. Even so, it was nearly a month afterwards, on May 2nd, before Scotland, and the world, heard about it. On that date, the highly regarded local newspaper at Inverness, *The Courier*, published a story under the by-line of Alex Campbell, its staff writer at Fort Augustus (a town on the Loch). In his report, Campbell didn't mention any names but the facts were these:

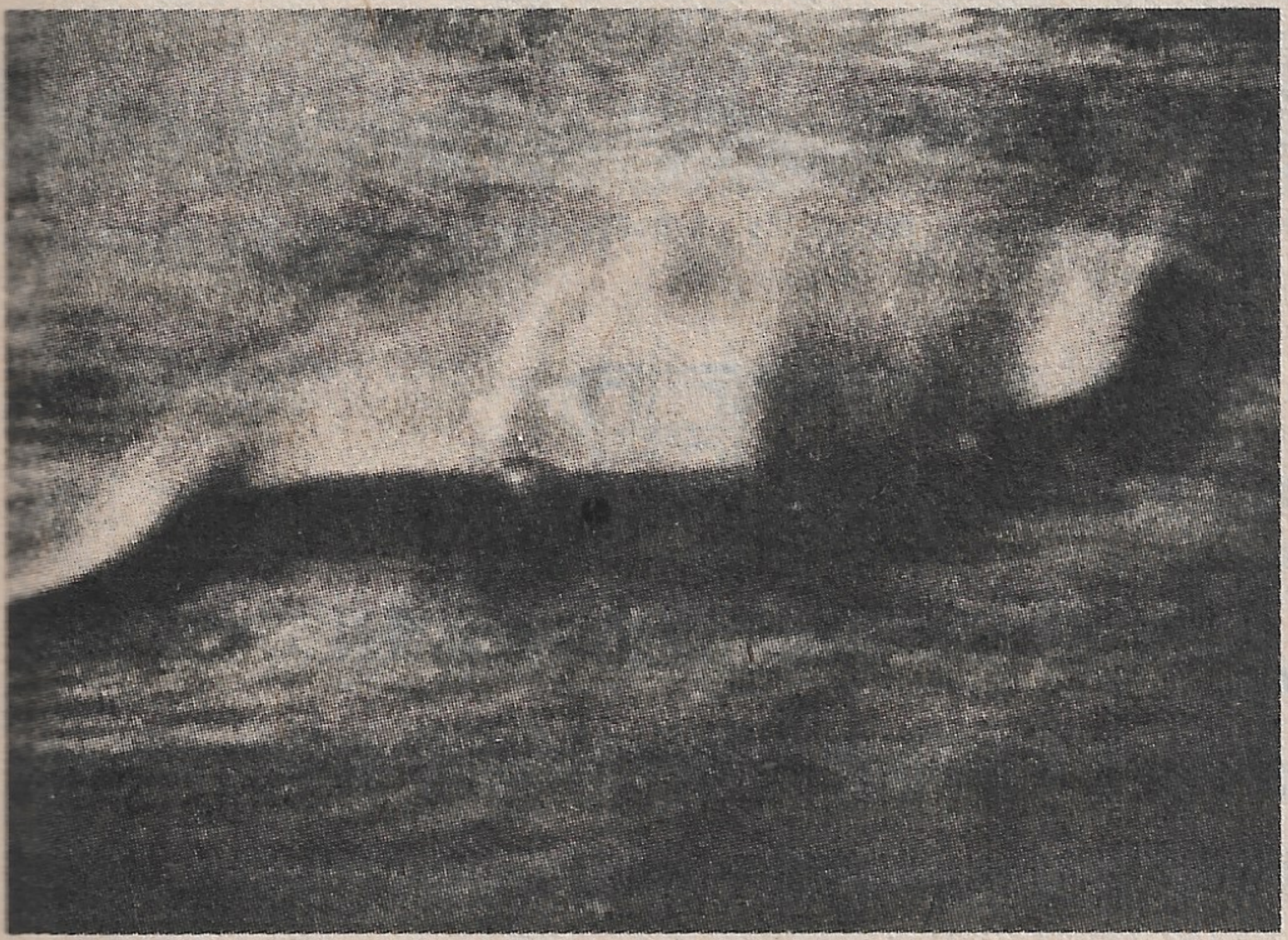
> Now, however, comes the news that the beast has been seen once more, for on Friday of last week, a well-known business man, who lives near Inverness, and his wife... when motoring along the northern side of the loch, were startled to see a tremendous upheaval in the water... The creature disported itself for fully a minute, its body resembling that of a whale, and the water cascading and churning like a simmering cauldron... Both on-lookers confessed that there was something uncanny about the whole

thing, for they realized this was no ordinary denizen of the deep.

The witnesses turned out to be Mr. and Mrs. John Mackay who were en route by car from Inverness to Drumnadrochit where Mr. Mackay was proprietor of the local hotel. It also developed that the principal witness was Mrs. Mackay, and she had requested that neither her name nor her husband's be used in the newspaper account, mainly because she wanted to "avoid the suggestion of self-advertisement." Some time later, however, Mrs. Mackay gave a first-hand account of what she had seen while her husband drove their car along the shore.

It was about 3 p.m. on April 14th, Mrs. Mackay related, when they reached a point just off Aldourie Pier. The sun was shining brightly and the Loch was perfectly calm, so much so that the few clouds floating in the sky were clearly reflected in the water. Suddenly, Mrs. Mackay spotted a turbulence about 100 yards off the shore, a commotion she at first thought was caused by "two ducks fighting." But as the turbulence subsided, a large "wake" appeared on the water, apparently caused by an object moving beneath the surface. Then, to Mrs. Mackay's astonishment, two black "humps" appeared in the water some 450 yards distant, moving in a straight line towards the opposite shore.

In her lifetime, Mrs. Mackay had seen whales at sea and her natural conclusion was that this, too, was a whale which had found its way into the Loch from the open Atlantic. But the creature showed no trace of fins, and the humps rose and sank in methodical fashion, never going entirely out of view. While still moving toward the far shore, the two humps abruptly turned left, moved in a semi-circle, and then dove out of sight beneath the Loch's surface.


SCOTTISH DAILY RECORD

This is the "monster", caught thrashing and splashing in the waters of Loch Ness by Hugh Gray's camera. It was one of best photos made during the banner monster sighting year of 1933.

Even though the two humps went out of sight, the message got through—there was a monster of some kind, alive and well, and living in Loch Ness. The publication of Mrs. Mackay's story in the *Inverness Courier* touched off the biggest "monster hunt" Scotland, and that part of the world, had ever seen. And throughout the watershed year of 1933, the sightings continued, some of which are recounted here:

May 11th: In rainy weather, late in the afternoon off Whitefield, Mr. Alexander Shaw and his son, Alister, saw a large black hump appear above the Loch's surface. They were standing in front of their home at Whitefield which overlooks the water. A big wash, or wake, followed the hump as it moved "rather faster than a rowboat." A sudden shower came up, and the hump disappeared.

May 27th: In sunny weather near Invermoriston, Mr. and Mrs. J. Simpson were on the road between Invermoriston and Altsigh when they heard a loud splashy noise some 400 yards away. They saw two humps moving rapidly down the Loch towards Dochfour.

August 5th: About 2:30 p.m. on a sunny afternoon, Miss N. Smith of Fort Augustus glimpsed a single, dark-colored hump just outside the entrance to Inchnacardoch Bay. It turned and circled several times, before eventually sinking from view.

August 5th: On the same afternoon Miss Smith (above) reported her sighting, three other witnesses also saw an object moving over Inchnacardoch Bay. First of these was Miss P. Keyes who was standing in a rock garden overlooking the bay. At first, she thought it was a small boat plying to and fro, and then she decided it wasn't a "boat" at all—it was something else, dark-brown or black in color, and about 750 yards away. Later in the afternoon, the same "creature" was witnessed through binoculars by Commander and Mrs. R. A. R. Meiklem, R.N. (ret), whose home Miss Smith was visiting at the time.

August 11th: About 7:30 p.m. in calm weather near Urquhart Castle, Mr. A. H. Palmer was spending the night lakeside in his traveling car while on a business trip. He described what he saw out in the lake: "About 100 yards out I saw a flat head on the surface . . . almost black in color. At each side, I saw a short antenna . . . being like the horns on the head of a snail. Between them was a wide mouth, opening and closing. . . ."

There were many other sightings during 1933, more than 50 in fact, and some of these will be discussed in other articles in this publication. Perhaps the most sensational, and best documented, of the 1933 observations came on November 12th. It produced a photograph that continues to be strong evidence that a monster does, indeed, exist in Loch Ness.

November 12th was a Sunday, and Mr. Hugh Gray was strolling near his lakeside home at Foyers. Like many other residents of the Loch's shores, he was carrying his camera, just in case "that monster" everybody was talking about, might decide to surface. He had just reached a cliff which stood above the lake at about 30 feet elevation when, suddenly, the calm water below him began boiling and thrashing. Then, a long snaky object appeared in the water, while Mr. Gray furiously snapped the shutter on his camera.

Three weeks lapsed before the films were developed, and four of the five negatives showed nothing. The fifth did, however, and it was the "animal creature" Gray had observed. The photo was published in the Scottish *Daily Record*, along with Gray's comments. "It was an object of considerable dimensions," he said, "rising up two or three feet. Dark greyish in color, the skin appeared smooth and glistening."

A photo technician examined the negative and certified that it had not been tampered with to produce a "monster." Several prominent zoologists gave their opinions, one saying the photograph was "unconvincing as a representation of a living creature." Others speculated that it was, perhaps, "a bottlenosed whale, one of the larger species of shark, or just mere wreckage."

Near the end of 1933, Nessie chose Christmas Day, December 25th, to make an appearance for the faithful watchers along the Loch. Early on Christmas morning at about 8 o'clock, four miles from Fort Augustus, the monster was seen lying in Clayhole Bay about 30 yards from the shore. The witnesses were Messrs. John Cameron and D. McIntosh who were driving a motor-lorry along the Loch road. When they drove closer for a better look, the creature apparently became frightened by the motor's noise and sank from view—amid a great lashing and splashing of H-Two-O. ☐

On a July morning of flat calm, the schoolmaster watched with cameras on target as, suddenly, a hump appeared off the shore.

A SCHOOLMASTER STALKS THE UNKNOWN

For A Full 14 Hours It Surged, And It Weaved, While the Humps Heaved and Undulated Like Magic

by Stewart McCulloch

LONDON SUNDAY EXPRESS

Photos by BEAVERBROOK NEWSPAPERS

One July morning in 1975, a secret picture was made in Scotland, and researchers say it helps prove conclusively the existence of the Loch Ness monster, or a family of monsters.

The photo was one of several taken by 42-year-old schoolmaster Alan Wilkins of Annan, Dumfriesshire. These pictures were studied by a committee of inquiry set up by the Loch Ness Phenomena Investigation Bureau, and space project laboratories at Pasadena, California, where computers enlarge pictures from space.

Mr. Wilkins took the photographs during four sightings on one day—July 18, 1975—over a period of 14 hours, when he and his family, 39-year-old wife Margery, son Ian, eight, and daughter Helen, six, were at the camp observation site on the shore of the loch at Rubha Ban.

Mr. David James, Tory M.P. for North Dorset, founder and head of the bureau, arranged for them to be developed in two separate laboratories, and then the committee of inquiry sat. The inquiry included naturalists Sir Peter Scott and Richard Fritter.

The range at which the pictures were taken and the poor light spoiled all of them except a few.

Some showing the humps were examined and measured by R.A.F. intelligence photographic experts.

Mr. James said after the inquiry: "Alan Wilkins has made an extremely important contribution. His sightings were far and away the best over a period of 35 years."

Sir Peter Scott was convinced by them, and by underwater film made by a joint American-British expedition, that the monster exists.

The committee questioned Mr. Wilkins closely for four hours.

They studied and heard also the collected and collated written statements and tape recorded interviews of witnesses, all of which tallied.

The witnesses included a couple who had been strangers to him but helped him after the first sightings—holidaymakers Roger Selwyn of Washford, Somerset, and his fiancee Sylvia Williams.

Mr. Wilkins, ex-gunnery officer and amateur photographer, decided to let the *Sunday Express* be the first to show the pictures because, he says, it is a "responsible paper."

At his cottage in Summervale, Annan, Mr. Wilkins told me he had "fantastic luck."

"Most enthusiasts spend months, even years, trying to record a glimpse of Nessie," he said.

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For 14 patient hours, schoolmaster Alan Wilkins stalked the Loch Ness monster with a camera. Did Mr. Wilkins turn what was thought by sceptics to be fiction into fact? Has it at last been established that a monster, or maybe monsters, live in the loch?

The experts who formed the committee of inquiry which pored over his pictures and statements think he has helped to do so. Certainly the evidence he gave them in writing makes fantastic reading.

Sighting No. 1

The Loch was flat calm. By 6:25 a.m. my son Ian and I were on watch with cameras close to the water's edge.

At 7:20 a long dark line appeared in mid loch off the western point. It sank slowly, only to reappear soon afterwards. It sank and rose two or three times.

On the final appearance I took two still photographs. I guessed the line must have been at least 20 feet long.

As I looked again through the binoculars I was just in time to see a large black shape rising out of the water in the same area. It seemed to be of great size and as it sank back again after only a few seconds' exposure the water swirled at its base, suggesting a bulky body below.

After a further appearance as a long line, it was suddenly gone.

Ian reported the sighting to my wife Margery who dismissed it as a joke and went back to sleep.

At about 10:05 I took two still photographs of two strange patches of large bubbles glistening in the sun off the far shore. The largest bubbles seemed to be about two feet in diameter and remained afloat a long time.

Sighting No. 2

At 10:12 I saw with my naked eye what I believed to be a black inflatable boat with outboard motor moving in the haze off the western point at a range later measured to be 2¼ miles or slightly more. I shot four still photographs [*for scale and definition reference*].

At the time I thought that the inflatable was gyrating with bursts of considerable speed implying a powerful outboard motor, and also that it was very high out of the water. Enlargements show a two-humped object changing to one high hump, bearing no resemblance to a boat at all.

At 10:15 a long dark line appeared in the water off the western point where I had lost sight of the "black inflatable." This was the same as the line of Sighting One.

I passed the binoculars to Margery, asking her what she could see in that area. She said that it looked like a coat with a man crouching down at the back.

"I have just photographed a boat," I replied, "and this is too low in the water."

By the time I had refocussed the bonoculars the object had become three well-spaced triangular humps. Seeing

Cameras at the ready, teacher Alan Wilkins and his 8-year-old son, Ian. This photo was taken by Alan's wife, Margery, as she watched them setting up equipment in the Rubha Ban loch area.

Another view of Loch Ness's mysterious shores, with craggy uplands in background. That's a cow, not a monster, parked in front.

that a man in the next caravan had his binoculars aimed at the target area I asked "What do you make of it?"

"I can see three humps," he replied.

He, Roger Selwyn, then came and stood alongside me with his fiancee, Sylvia Williams and helped to direct my camera work.

As we watched the humps moving across the loch there came a moment when only two humps were visible spaced further apart than at first. We exclaimed simultaneously at the considerable distance seaprating these two from a third rear object which to me seemed to be travelling on a different course diagonal to that of the leading two.

The humps slowed down as they approached the eastern shore and spent the last 15 minutes or so of the sighting in a dark band of off-shore water.

In this dark band the humps were sometimes stationary, sometimes moving to a new position as though searching for fish (a stream comes into the loch at this point).

There were nearly always two humps close together. I saw them sink and reappear on more than one occasion.

Just before a large yacht came past, one large hump rose high out of the water and sank back in. The sun glistened on the right flank of the hump which seemed to be light brown at that moment, though this may have been the colour of the wet reflective surface rather than the true colour of the animal.

Sighting No. 4

At 10:25 p.m., Miss Williams spotted three humps coming out of Invermoriston Bay at a range of about one mile. By this time the moon was taking over from the sun as the source of illumination, but the black humps showed clearly.

The Camera Equipment

Mr. Wilkins's equipment consisted of a Canon 35mm single lens reflex, type FTB, connected via Canon-Leica adaptor and Novoflex focusing bellows to a Novoflex 640mm focal length (28.15") telephoto lens. Sterling tripod with legs to maximum height, but centre column retractor. Ilford H.P. 4 film rated at ASA 400. Apertures: f14 to f16, exposures 1/250th to 1/500th second.

Our roles were reversed: Mr. Selwyn used his camera while Miss Williams and I kept continuous binocular watch. Steadying my 10 x 50 binoculars on the tripod I was able to witness at this close range the unforgettable sight of Nessie's leisurely progress across the loch.

As the three humps turned through 90 degrees to travel away from us. I was certain that they were part of the same animal. Their behaviour implied that the submerged body was moving in a slightly sinuous manner, with each hump turning in precise imitation of the one ahead.

They next turned east to pass again across our line of sight and began a series of hump changes. Miss Williams and I called out the hump changes in unison.

I am not certain how those changes were achieved. One of the humps would quite suddenly disappear or return: it was as difficult to analyse as a magician's sleight of hand.

The impression was of an animal of great muscular power and size, swimming at ease. The humps did not seem to be as high out of the water as during parts of Sighting Two. I would estimate them at about four feet high.

The last sight we had was of a single hump drifting slowly across the loch. This was at about 10:35 p.m. when the light was deteriorating and it was becoming very difficult to see detail at that range.

Plane Fear

Moments that merit description:—

On the approach of a jet aircraft flying at a low altitude down the east shore I said to Mr. Selwyn, "From what I have read I expect that this sound will make Nessie sink." So we held out binoculars unwaveringly on the humps.

They sank only after the aircraft had passed our own position i.e. had travelled well over two miles past Nessie. After a short interval they reemerged.

The approach from the south of a large yacht followed by a motor launch also seemed likely to put an end to the sighting since they were both motoring close to that shore.

As I filmed Mr. Selwyn said that he could see two humps on our side of the yacht, one showing just ahead, one just behind the yacht.

When the film was screened later Mr. Selwyn at once pointed to two marks in these positions well clear of the yacht and its wash.

[*The yacht was identified later as the Netherlands Antilles yacht Astral, with Captain Richard M. McIlvride aboard. It is 98 ft. long and has a 24 ft. beam*].

I caught up with the large yacht at the first canal lock by Dochgarroch, only to find that no one on board had seen anything though they were nearly all on deck at the time.

[*Mr. Wilkins estimated the range of sighting at 4,000 yards. In a sketch map he showed the course of "black inflatable" as a loop, but it was more complex "gyrating in fairly tight circles." The impression was of someone testing out or showing off in an inflatable powered by a large outboard.*]

Sighting No. 3

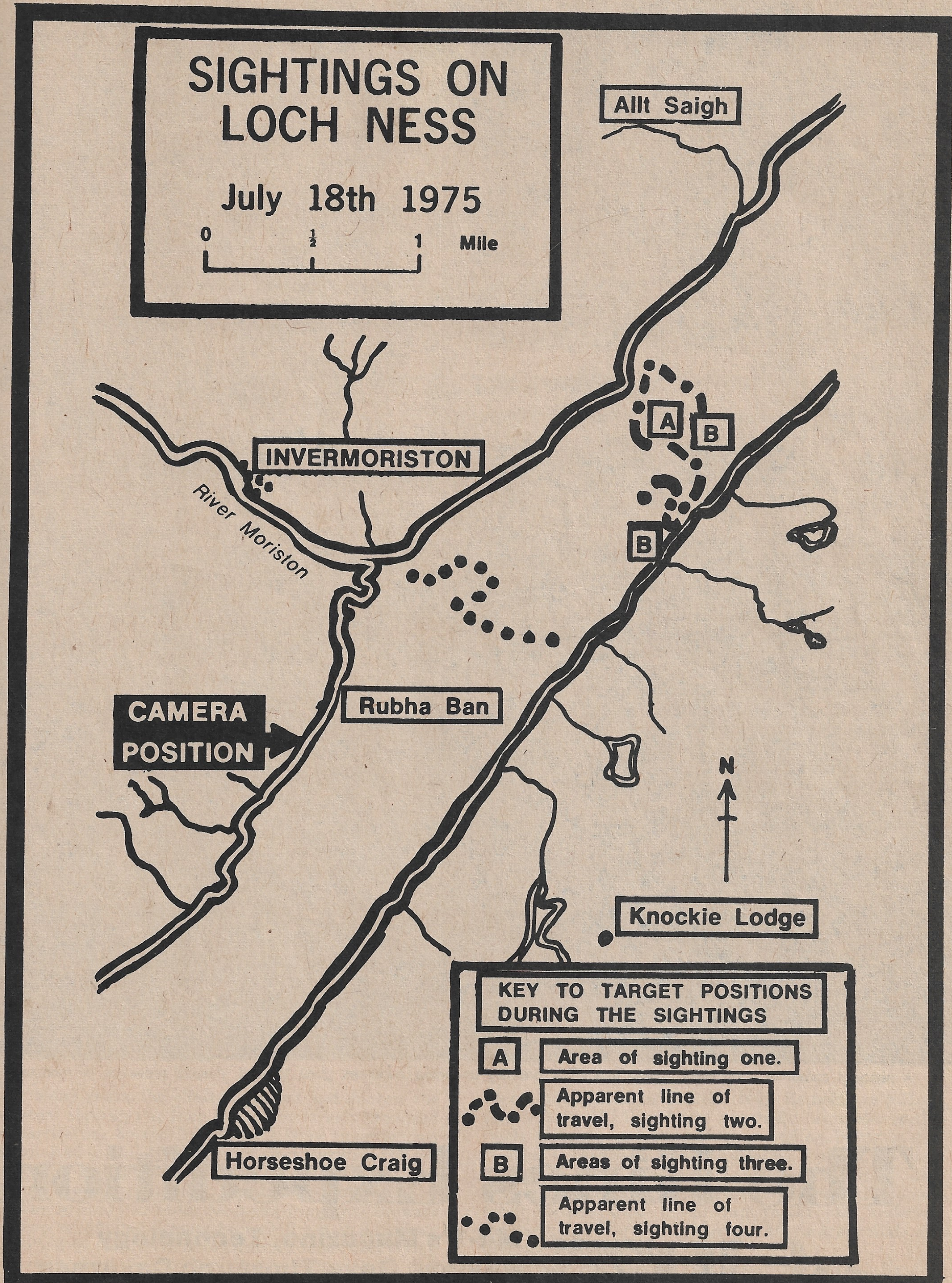
At about 9:25 p.m. I saw through binoculars a black patch in roughly the same position as Sighting One. The water seemed to be swirling.

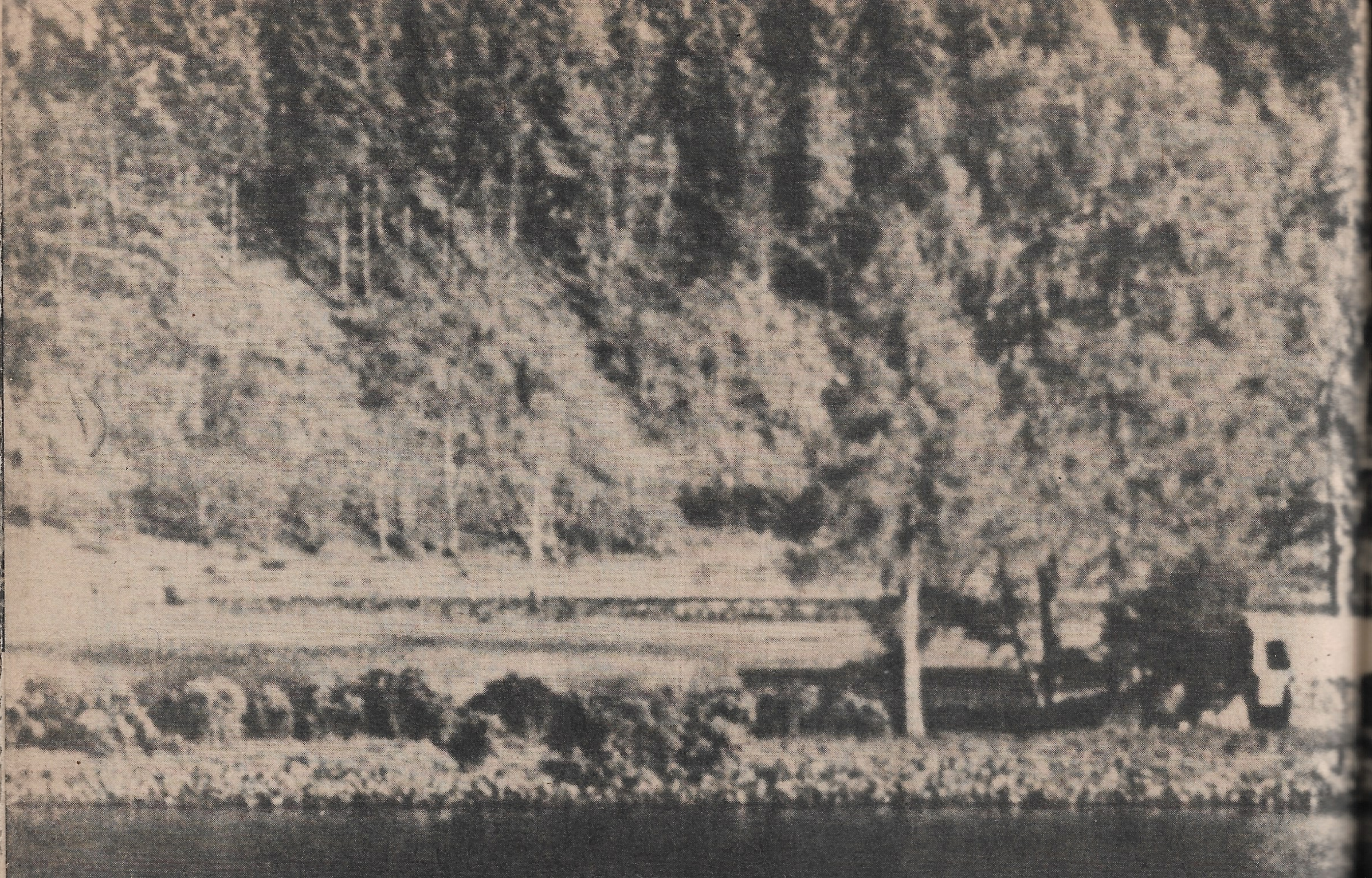
Two angular humps emerged slowly and majestically, the right hand one higher and larger.

I am not sure whether the two humps joined on to each other or whether they were separated by a very small patch of water.

Shortly afterwards Miss Williams spotted a small hump, once again off the east shore. This was visible for some time and was seen by a fourth witness, Mr. Sam Russell (of Kemsing, Kent), who stayed with us during the next sighting period.

[*No photographs were taken during this sighting which was at a range of about 4,000 yards.*] ☐


SIGHTINGS ON LOCH NESS
July 18th 1975
0
½
1
Mile
Allt Saigh
INVERMORISTON
River Moriston
A
B
B
Rubha Ban
CAMERA POSITION
N
Knockie Lodge
Horseshoe Craig
KEY TO TARGET POSITIONS DURING THE SIGHTINGS
A
Area of sighting one.
Apparent line of travel, sighting two.
B
Areas of sighting three.
Apparent line of travel, sighting four.



A peaceful corner of Loch Ness, where fishing for ordinary undersea creatures goes forward, despite presence of monsters.

The Rines Expedition of 1975

M-I-T's Magazine, Technology Review, Gave Thorough Coverage to 1976's Four-Man Expedition

For many years, the efforts to record and analyze the consistent sightings at Loch Ness were largely promoted and carried out by the British Loch Ness Investigation Bureau. And gradually, slowly but unmistakably, the use of modern investigative techniques revealed physical evidence of over-sized aquatic creatures in Loch Ness.

It was against this historical background that Boston's Academy of Applied Science became the first American scientific organization to take an active interest in trying to solve the Loch Ness riddle. The Academy, which was founded in 1963, has about 350 members whose interests lie in the unusual areas of research with the cooperation of inventors, industrialists and scientists. Heading the Academy was Robert H. Rines, dean at the Franklin Pierce Law Center in Concord, N.H. He holds an S.B. in physics from M.I.T. and has patents for inventions in the fields of sonar and radar. Other leading lights in the Academy expeditions were Charles W. Wyckoff, who has developed many important techniques for space and underwater photography; Martin Klein, designer of many sonar devices used in oil exploration and undersea mapping; and Harold E. Edgerton whose credentials are described in a paragraph below.

The Academy sent its first expedition to Loch Ness in 1970 and, using a high-frequency sonar device, made several contacts with large "creatures" passing beneath the water, including one particularly huge "moving object" near a pier in Urquhart Bay. These objects were up to 50 times larger than the underwater creatures detected by previous sonar beams.

In 1972, the Academy again showed up at Loch Ness with an expedition, this one adding a camera-strobe lighting system developed by M-I-T Professor Emeritus Harold E. (Doc) Edgerton who had invented the strobe light back in 1931. In recent years, Edgerton has invented camera and electronic equipment for underwater exploration, searches for sunken ships, and the filming of marine life. The National Geographic Society and famed undersea explorer Jacques Cousteau have made considerable use of Edgerton's gear.

The Academy's 1972 equipment was installed on a ridge under the lake's surface near Temple Pier in Urquhart Bay, with the lens pointing across a deep underwater slough, or valley. The time of year was early August, a period when salmon and sea trout swarm into the Bay to travel up the Enrick and Coiltie Rivers to spawn. And, presumably, the monster finds this a good time to put on the feed bag, indeed. And it was on the evening of August 8th, 1972, that the expedition's first underwater photos were obtained.

The lake's waters were described as "flat and calm" that evening with investigators from both the Academy and the British Loch Ness Investigation Bureau waiting on board two boats—one with the sonar equipment, the other with the strobe and camera gear. According to an article in the M-I-T publication, *Technology Review:*

"About 1:00 in the morning the team suddenly began to see the same kinds of characteristic sonar traces obtained in the 1970 expedition. (Here the article's author inserted a personal note: if primitive instincts are any sign, there was something ominous in the Loch that night; the hair went up on the backs of our necks). The object was at an optimum distance for the camera, about 120 feet from the sonar; but as we discovered later, nothing intersected the camera beam at this time, which is understandable—the object could have been above or below the camera and light beam. Then, about 40 minutes later, salmon were seen jumping away from something in the Loch and this flight was also seen on the sonar. At the same time a large object came back into the beam, and a bit later still a second object of similar size. . . . The sonar chart was submitted to six experts . . . and they concluded the tracings showed a large object with an approximate ten-foot 'appendage', and still another large object separate from the first."

As Scientists See the Photos

"I believe these data indicate the presence of large animals in Loch Ness but are insufficient to identify them. This new evidence on the existence of a population of large animals in Loch Ness should serve to encourage research on the natural history of Loch Ness and its plant and animal inhabitants, and remove the stigma of 'crackpot' from any scientist or group of scientists who wish to investigate the biological and limnological phenomena of Loch Ness"—*George R. Zug, Curator, Division of Reptiles and Amphibians, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C.*

"I personally find the photographs extremely intriguing and sufficiently suggestive of a large aquatic animal to both urge and recommend that, in the future, more intensive investigations similar to the type pioneered in the past be undertaken in the loch."—*A.W. Crompton, Professor of Biology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.*

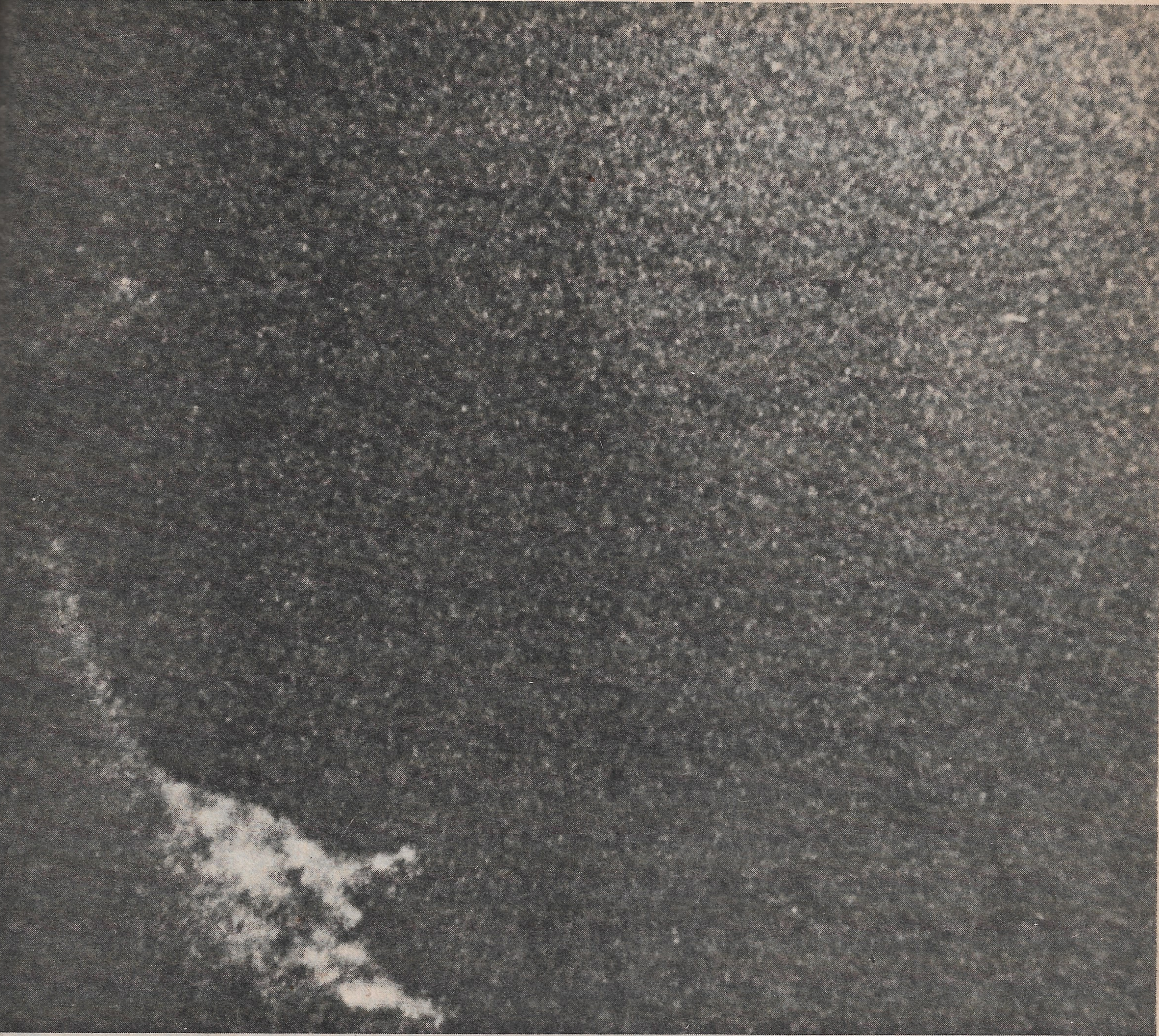
"The 1975 photographs certainly support the belief that a large aquatic animal inhabits Loch Ness. Although the identity of the creature is not distinguishable, in retrospect these photographs reconfirm the animate image obtained in 1972, which was reinforced with computer-enhancement techniques."—*Officials of the New England Aquarium, Boston, Mass.*

What's that down there? A scientific observer with the Loch Ness Investigation Bureau, trains her telescope over the Scottish lake's misty surface, hoping for a glimpse of Nessie.

Greatly encouraged by the results of the first two probes, Rines and the Academy carried out another successful expedition in June, 1975, while introducing new techniques and more sensitive film for the cameras. The apparatus used in '72 became backup equipment for the '75 probe. Several excellent photographs were taken, including one labeled "Photograph C", taken at 4:32 a.m. on June 20th, showing what appears to be the upper torso, neck and head of a "creature" which had a dappled body.

In a statement published in *Technology Review,* members of the Academy expeditions summed up the results: "Taken together, at the very least, the 1972 and 1975 photographs, and the sonar evidence, agree well with one another and with past evidence, that *there is a species of large aquatic creature in Loch Ness* . . . Although we make no claim to be expert zoologists, we can find no combination of phenomena that account for these data as well as the simple explanation that a large creature inhabits the loch. Not even the experts have offered a plausibee alternative explanation, in our view. In addition, there have been other investigations which suggest that the loch is capable of supporting a breeding population of such animals."

"It is a philosophic rule that if a given set of data has more than one explanation, the true explanation is probably the simplest one. To put it another way, 'The shortest distance between two points is a straight line.' We submit that it is a patent violation of this rule to explain away our data, as well as the reputable historical data on the Loch Ness phenomenon, as a complex series of mistaken sightings, equipment failures, artifacts or hoaxes. In any case many scientists have at least now agreed that these phenomena bear further investigation; further expeditions will soon be underway, and we hope better data will follow shortly."



Clearly outlined in the murky deep of Loch Ness, is this figure of some kind of aquatic animal. Scientist Charles W. Wyckoff of Needham, Mass., made picture with an underwater camera which had been lowered some forty feet beneath the lake's surface.

Nessie Crashes the Dictionary

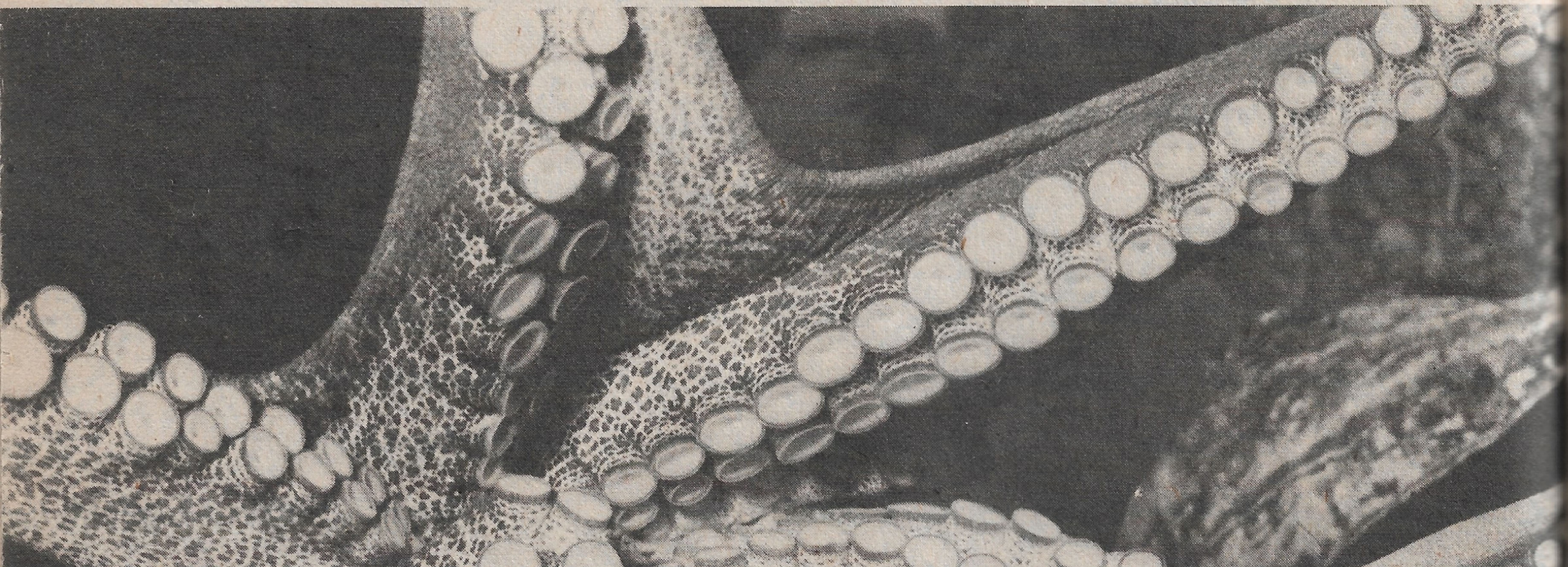
Nessie: The Loch Ness monster, that mysterious creature said to inhabit a Scottish arm of the sea.

That's the way Nessie is listed in the new edition of the Oxford English Dictionary. But that isn't the only recognition accorded the Loch Ness inhabitant in recent months. Sir Peter Scott of England, Chairman of the World Wildlife Fund and a long-time lochside monster watcher, joined Robert Rines in suggesting that the scientific name, *Nessiteras rhombopteryx,* be given Nessie in order to bring her under the jurisdiction of British laws protecting wild animals. This in turn brought a comment from some magazines and newspapers which pointed out that such biological nomenclature is a perfect anagram for "Monster Hoax by Sir Peter S." (Shades of Edgar Allen Poe!) To which Rines answered with an anagram of his own: "Yes, Both Pix Are Monsters. R."

At a London news conference, expedition leader Robert Rines (right) and Sir Peter Scott, head of the World Wildlife Foundation, told of plans to locate the elusive Loch Ness monster.

The Sea Serpent *Alias* the Kraken *Alias* the Giant Squid

Pity the Poor Fisherman Who Reels In One of These Horrendous Monsters!

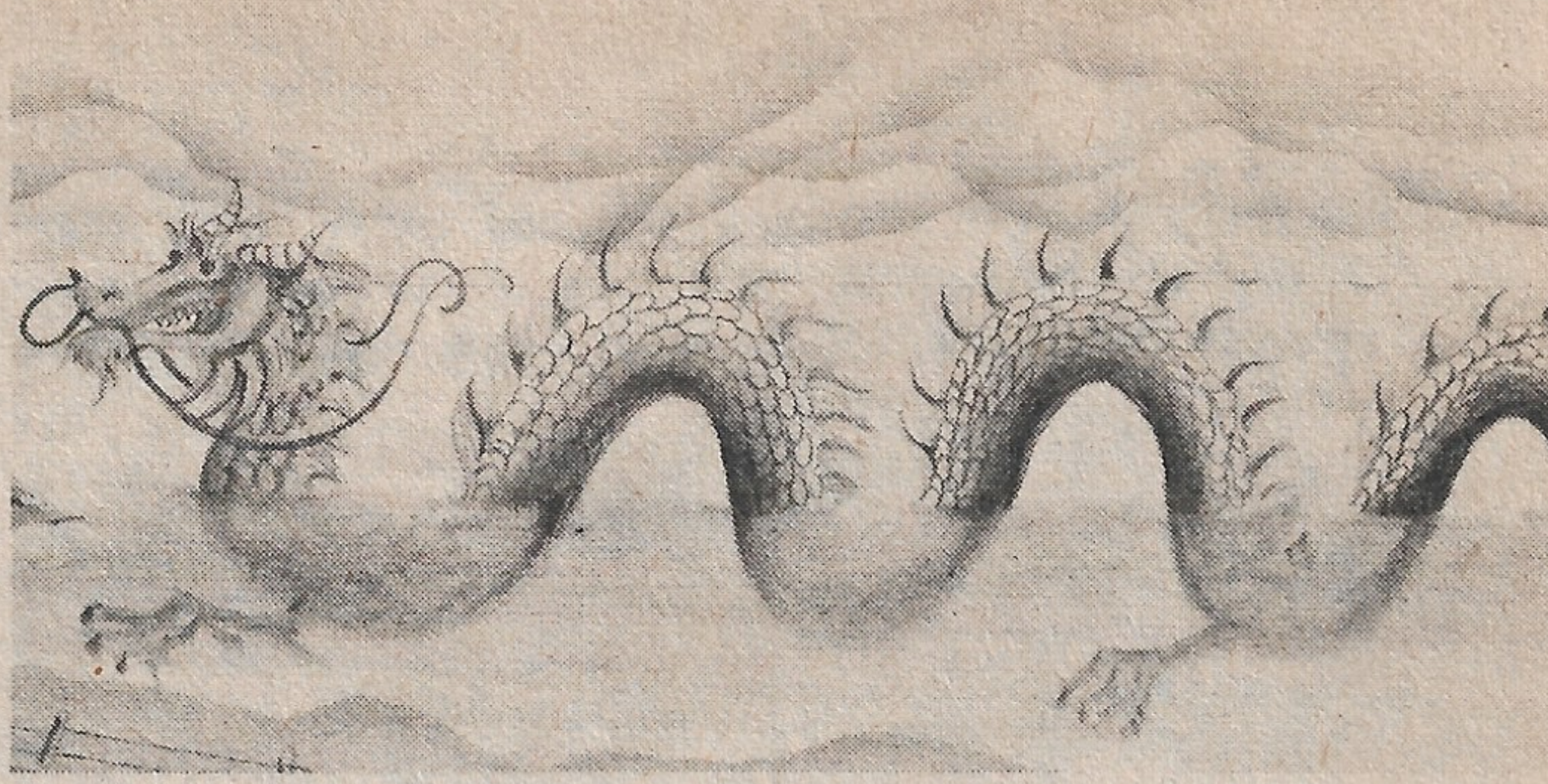


Even though the octopus (which is not a Squid) is harmless in the ocean, it nevertheless squirts poisonous ink into water when threatened. In an aquarium, ink must be removed or else it will be fatal, even to octopus itself (Miami Seaquarium).

The Poetic Kraken?

The English poet, Alfred Lord Tennyson, was no stranger to the Kraken. In fact, he even wrote a poem about this creature which was so capable of causing terror in the hearts of man. The poem was called *The Kraken:*

> Below the thunders of the upper deep;
> Far, far beneath in the abysmal sea,
> His ancient, dreamless, uninvaded sleep
> The Kraken sleepeth. . .
> There he hath lain for ages and will lie
> Battening on huge seaworms in his sleep,
> Until the latter fire shall heat the deep;
> The once by men and angles to be seen,
> In roaring he shall rise and on the surface die.


Some eyewitnesses describe sea serpents as appearing much in the manner of this artist's sketch of an aquatic monster, complete with horsehead, horns, scaly skin and spindles on spine.

When the sightings at Loch Ness broke into the world wide news in the banner observation year of 1933, the distinguished Dutch zoologist A.C. Oudemans studied the various reports and photographs from Scotland, and he was sure the monster was an old friend of his—the sea serpent.

After all, Dr. Oudemans was an authority on the sea serpent, having written the definitive book on the creature back in 1892. After an exhaustive study, he had reached some hard, if preliminary, conclusions. There are several types of sea serpents, he wrote, even though they were all members of the same aquatic family. Generally speaking, they were merely huge seals with long necks, a long tail, and four or more flippers.

So when he saw the sensational photos of the Loch Ness monster, Dr. Oudemans was certain he had the answer: Nessie is a sea serpent—and he set to work writing a special treatise supporting his theory. However, all the critics didn't entirely agree with him, some pointing out that the Loch Ness creature didn't have a long tail.

The sea serpent had long been known under the legendary name of Kraken, often a monster 60 feet long which roamed the Atlantic Ocean unfettered until one was captured in 1973. The Kraken was a fearful sight during its breeding season, shining with a weird phosphorescent light as it sought a mate. But "Kraken" wasn't the only alias used by the aea serpent, for today it's called the Giant Squid.

And the Giant Squid is something else again. Not to be confused with the much tamer octopus, the Squid reaches in all directions with two long tentacles, each of which carry a number of huge suckers. It also has eight smaller arms, of tentacles, and a tail fin that's shaped like a wedge. The Squid has no bones, therefore leaves no skeleton to prove that it ever existed, and being heavier than water, it sinks to the bottom when dead.

In trying to find answers to the Loch Ness puzzle, many scientists and investigators reasoned that oceanic monsters, such as the Kraken, could have been swept into land-locked lakes during times of great geologic upheavals on Earth. Excluding prehistoric times, the Bible itself refers to sea-going monsters on at least two occasions. In the Old Testament, for instance, the Book of Psalms (104) describes the Mediterranean as "a great wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, both great and small beasts. There go the ships: *there is that leviathan,* whom thou hast made to play therein."

The term, leviathan, translated from the Hebrew, means "terrible monster." Just as the faithful at Loch Ness are today mystified by the creature plying those depths, so Biblical scholars over the centuries have been trying to unravel the puzzle of the leviathan. Was it a crocodile, a water snake, or a sea serpent? The Book of Job also has something to say about the mystery:

"Canst thou draw out leviathan with a hook? . . . I will not conceal his parts, nor his power, nor his comely proportions. Who can open the doors of his face? His teeth are terrible round about. His scales are his pride, shut up together as with a close seal. One is so near to another, that no air can come between them. They are joined one to another, they stick together, that they cannot be sundered.

"Out of his mouth go burning lamps, and sparks of fire leap out. Out of his nostrils goeth smoke, as out of a seething cauldron. His breath kindleth coals, and a flame goeth out of his mouth . . . When he raiseth up himself, the mighty are frightened . . . The sword of those that layeth at him cannot hold: the spear, the dart nor a coat of mail . . The arrow cannot make him flee: sling stones are turned with him into stubble . . . He maketh the deep boil like a pot. . ."

It was the year 1558 before anyone mentioned a recognizable sea serpent in a book. This volume was written by one, Olaus Magnus, the Archbishop of Upsala, Sweden, and the book's title was: *A Compendious History of the Goths, Swedes, and Vandals, and Other Northern Nations.* At one point in his manuscript, Magnus refers to that very early sighting of a sea serpent:

"Those who in works of navigation, on the coasts of Norway, employ themselves in fishing or merchandise, do all agree to this strange story, that there is a serpent there which is of vast magnitude, namely 200 feet long, and moreover 20 feet thick; and it is wont to live in caves and rocks toward the seacoast about Bergen; which will go alone from his holes in a clear night, in Summer, and devour Calves, Lambs, and Hogs, or else he will go into the sea to feed on Polypus, Locusts, and all sorts of sea. crabs. He hath commonly hair hanging from his neck a Cubit long, and sharp scales, and is black, and he hath flaming shining eyes. This snake disquiets the shippers, and he puts up his head on high like a pillar, and catcheth away men, and he devours them. . ."

Magnus wrote about still another lake monster, in these words: "There is also a serpent of incredible magnitude in a town called Moos in the diocese of Hammer, which as a Comet portends a change for all the world, as it were seen, Anno 1522 . . . That lifts himself high above the waters, and rouls himself round like a sphere. This Serpent was thought to be 50 Cubits long by conjecture, by sight afar off. . ."

Many years later in 1745, Hans Egede, the Apostle of Greenland, wrote about sighting a sea monster in his book *A Description of Greenland.*" "This monster was of so huge a size, that coming out of the water, its head reached as high as the masthead; its body was as bulky as the ship, and three or four times as long. It had a long pointed Snout, and spouted like a Whale-fish; great broad paws, and the Body seemed covered with shell-work, its skin very rugged and uneven. The underpart of its body was shaped like an enormous huge serpent, and when it dived again under water, it plunged backwards into the sea, and so raised its tail aloft, which seemed a whole ship's length

The Valley of the Draa in Morocco, between the Atlas Mountains and the Sahara, is the abode of the reptilian monster, a left-over from prehistoric times. A Stone Age momento in Africa. . .

distant from the bulkiest part of its body."

Still another Scandinavian sea serpent observation was provided by Eric Ludvigsen Pontoppidan, the Bishop of Bergen, Norway, in his book, *The Natural History of Norway* (1752): "The head of this sea serpent, which it held more than two feet above the surface of the water, resembled that of a horse. It was of grayish color, and the mouth was quite black, and very large. It had large black eyes, and a long white mane, which hung down to the surface of the water. Besides the head and neck, we saw seven or eight folds, or coils of this snake, which were very thick, and as far as we could guess there was a fathom's distance between each fold."

The 19th Century recorded several sightings of sea serpents, among the first one being that of a Danish naval officer. Captain Christmas, while patrolling between Iceland and the Faroes in 1846, spotted something during a storm. His attention was at first attracted to a school of porpoises passing his ship with some kind of weird looking animal in hot pursuit. Like other earlier sea serpents, this one had a head like a horse with a thick neck. But the ship apparently frightened the odd-looking creature for it dove out of sight.

The next sighting of an oceanic serpent apparently occurred on August 6th, 1848, when the officers of the ship *Daedalus* observed such a creature in the South Atlantic. According to their report, a large animal, moving at about 13 knots, swept past the ship. It had a "snake-like head" extending nearly 5 feet above the ocean surface, also revealing what appeared to be an orange-colored neck with a brownish body about 55 feet in length. The ship's officers also perceived what, apparently, was a hairy mane, swinging to and fro across the monster's backsides.

Other sightings of serpents were recorded in 1883 by ships at sea, one being described as having a horse-like head with two horns "sticking out of the skull." Nor was Scotland itself without similar sightings in the 19th Century, one of the more memorable ones being reported by London physician Farquhar Matheson and his wife who were sailing in the Kyle of Loch Alsh. Their vivid description is given in the book, *In Search of Lake Monsters* by Peter Costello (Berkley Medallion Books, New York, 1975, $1.75):

"Our sail was up and we were going gaily along, when suddenly I saw something arise from the Loch in front of us—a long, straight, neck-like thing as tall as a mast. I could not think what it was at first. I fancied it might be something on land and directed attention to it. I said, 'Do you see that?' My wife said she did, and asked what it could be, and was rather scared. It was then 200 yards away and moving towards us. Then, it began to draw its neck down, and I saw clearly that it was a large sea-monster—of the saurian type, I should think. It was brown in colour, shining, and with a sort of ruffle at the junction of the head and neck. I can think of nothing to compare it with so well as the head and neck of a giraffe, only the neck was much longer, and the head was not set upon the neck like that of a giraffe; that is, it was not so much at right angles to it as a continuation of it in the same line. It moved its head from side to side, and I saw the reflection of the light from its wet skin."

Watching the creature sink and re-appear several times, Dr. Matheson concluded: "I saw nobody, only a ripple of water where the line of the body should have been. I should judge, however, that there must have been a large base of body to support such a neck. It was not a sea-serpent, but a much larger and more substantial beast—something in the nature of a gigantic lizard. An eel could not have lifted its body up like that, nor could a snake."

Other sightings of serpentine animals continued throughout the late 1800's and into the early years of the 20th Century. Among the more notable:

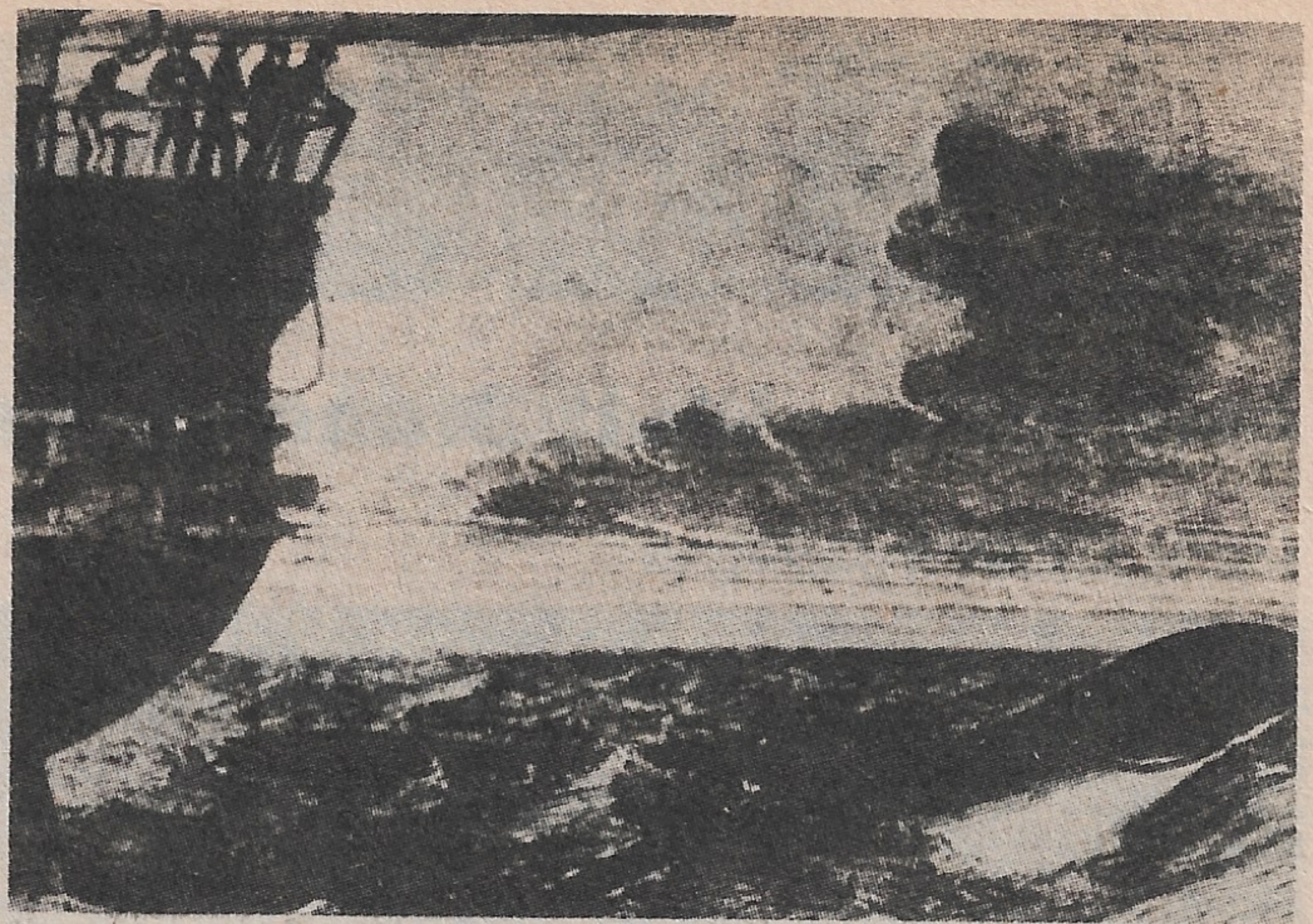
The Loch Hourn Creature: August 20th and 21st, 1872, seen by six persons aboard cutter *Leda,* in Loch Hourn—on West Coast of Scotland. A line of black humps in the water, with head and neck occasionally seen elevated above the surface. Total length visible: 45 feet.

The Umfuli Sighting: December 4th, 1893, seen from S.S. Umfuli steaming southward in the Atlantic toward the Cape. About 400 yards from ship's starboard, a serpentine head and neck surfaced, moving rapidly to the north. Ship's Captain R.J. Cringle saw three distrinct humps, and he described it as resembling "a hundred-ton gun partly submerged." His original account of the sighting appeared in *Strand Magazine* for August 1895: "It was rushing through the water at great speed, and was throwing water from its breast as a vessel throws water from her bows. I saw full 15 feet of its head and neck on several occasions . . . The body was all the time visible . . . The base, or body, from which the neck sprang, was much thicker than the neck itself, and I should not, therefore, call it a serpent. Had it been breezy enough to ruffle the water, or hazy, I should have had some doubt about the creature; but the sea being so perfectly smooth, I had not the slightest doubt in my mind as to its being a sea-monster.

"I turned the ship round to get closer to it, and got much nearer than we were at first; but the sun was then setting and the light gone, so that to have run the ship further (sic.) off her course would have been folly . . this thing, whatever it was, was in sight for over half an hour. In fact, we did not lose sight of it until darkness came on."

American author James Fenimore Cooper, in his book *Lives of Distinguished American Naval Officers,* recounts a sighting which took place during the Revolutionary War in Penobscot Bay, Maine. The American ship, *Protector,* was preparing to engage a British naval force in the Bay. Serving on the *Protector* was a young ensign named Edward Preble, and captain of the 26-gun American vessel was John Foster Williams. As Cooper told it:

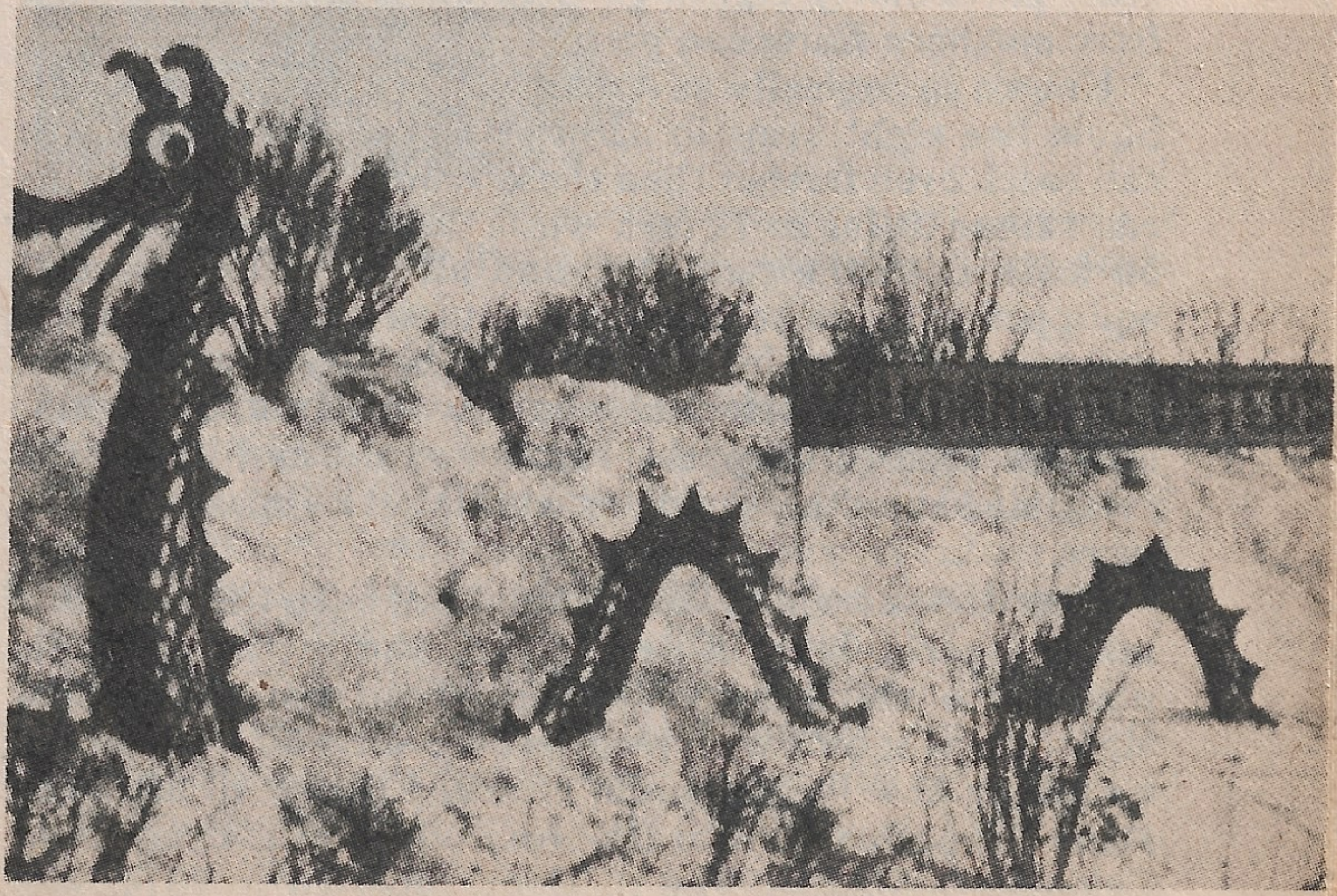
"It was while thus employed (engaging the British) that an incident occurred to Preble that is worthy of being recorded, more especially since subsequent events have confirmed its truth. Preble related the affair substantially as follows: The *Protector* was lying in one of the bays on the eastern coast, waiting the slow movement of the Squadron. The day was clear and calm. When a large serpent was discovered outside ths ship. The animal was lying on the surface of the water, quite motionless. After inspecting it through glasses for some time, Captain Williams ordered Preble to arm and man a boat. Preble was to endeavor to destroy the creature, or at least go as near to it as he could. The boat thus employed carried 12 oars and had a swivel in its bow, besides having the crew armed as if to board (an enemy ship). As the boat neared it, the serpent raised its head about 10 feet above the water's surface, looking about it. It then began to slowly move away from the boat. Preble pushed on, his men pulling with all their force and, the animal being at no great distance, the swivel was discharged loaded with bullets. The discharge produced no other effect than to quicken the speed of the monster, which soon ran out of sight of the boat . . . Preble later stated that, it his opinion, the serpent he saw was from 100 to 150 feet long and larger in diameter than a barrel."



A contemporary drawing depicts the sighting of a sea serpent from the Daedalus, one of the year 1848's great sensations. . .

In recent years, a considerable number of sightings have been reported in various coastal areas of the United States. On August 19th, 1963, the *New York Times* told of an observation off the New Jersey coast by Dr. Lionel A. Walford, director of the Interior Department's Fish & Wildlife Research Center. Cautioning newsmen not to use the term "sea serpent," Dr. Walford described what he had seen: "It was at least 40 feet in length, about five inches thick, and perhaps seven to eight inches deep. It looked something like an enormously long flattened eel . . . I finally made a tentative identification of it as something that's known as a Venus Girdle, a jelly-like creature . . . However, upon examining my references, I soon and surprisingly determined that the Venus Girdle does not grow longer than a few feet. And no amount of research I could do provided me with a proper identification of this very strange creature."

As the title of this article says, it's the Sea Serpent *alias* The Kraken *alias* the Giant Squid. And what about the Giant Squid? To get an idea what one of *those* is like, turn to the next page.

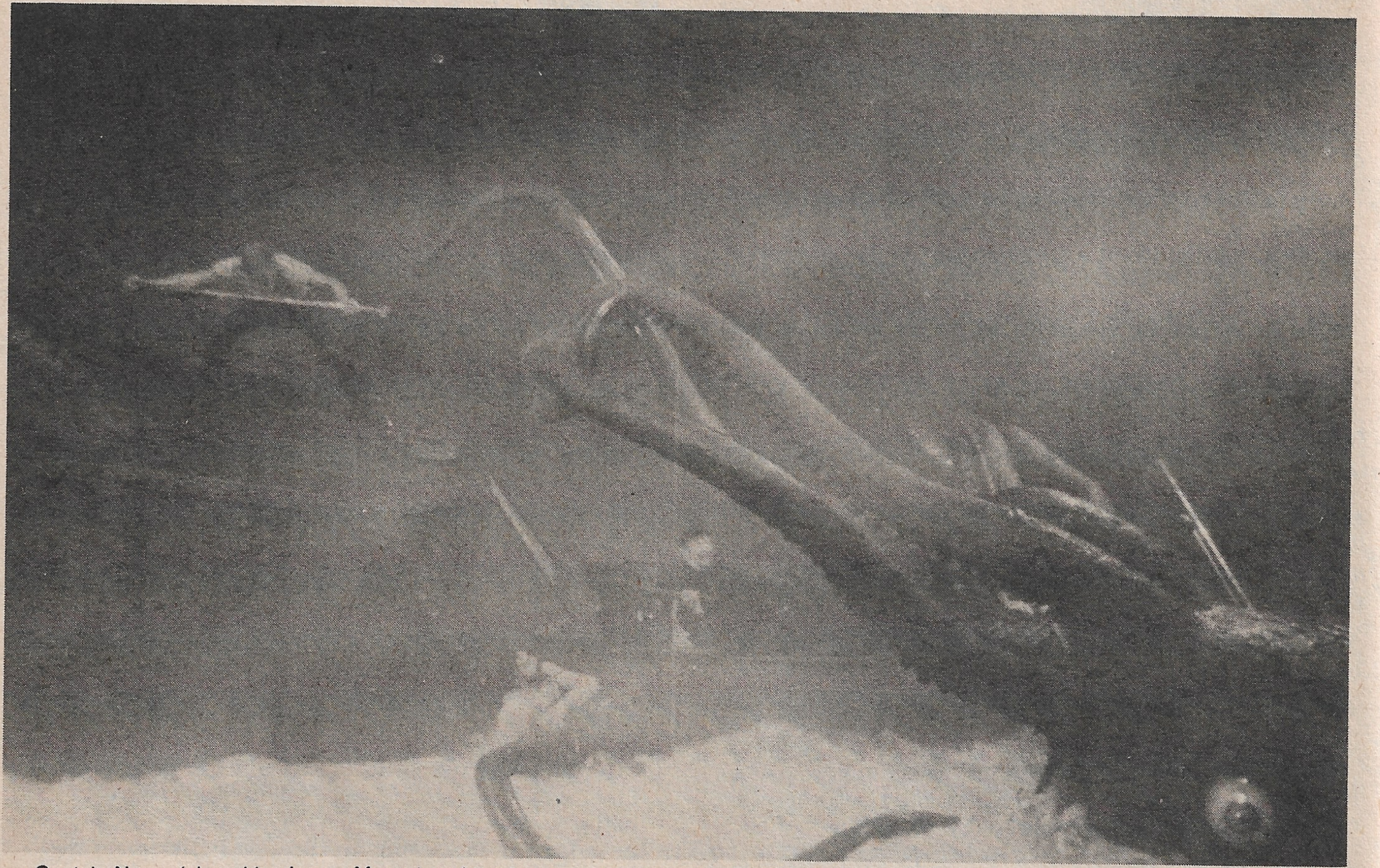


A re-creation of a monster sighted in Lake Storsjo in Sweden in 1880. It stands just outside the lake village of Ostersund.

Battling the

Walt Disney's Realistic Two-Ton Creation Of

Photos By WALT DISNEY PRODUCTIONS



Captain Nemo (played by James Mason) and the harpooner at left, Ned Land (played by Kirk Douglas), fight desperately to kill the Giant Squid which is attacking their submarine, "Nautilus."

Only within the last century have scientists reached agreement that the Giant Squid does, indeed, exist. Since medieval times, sea-faring observers had time and again reported sightings of these terrifying monsters on the high seas, particularly sightings from on board ships sailing from northern European ports.

Known zoologically as *Architeuthis princeps,* the Giant Squid has eight arms in addition to two tentacles which can reach even farther than those arms. (The squid's arms can extend as far as 12 feet, while the tentacles can reach 50 feet). Both the tentacles, and all the arms, are well equipped with suckers which are used extensively while grappling with a foe, whether it be beast or human. Whatever the unfortunate creature ensnared, the tentacles are used to draw the victim toward and inside the arms, and then the squid's powerful beak finishes off the prey.

Over the years, the Giant Squid has been the subject of many reports, both in newspapers and in the dramatic notes of a ship's log. Although there are no verified sightings of squids with lengths exceeding 60 feet, there's no telling how large a squid attacked the small schooner *Pearl* and pulled it under the ocean while on a voyage from Colombo to Madras. The incident, reported in 1874, was witnessed from on board the steamer *Strathowen.* The monster squid was seen emerging from the sea and reaching its tentacles around the *Pearl,* carrying it into the deep.

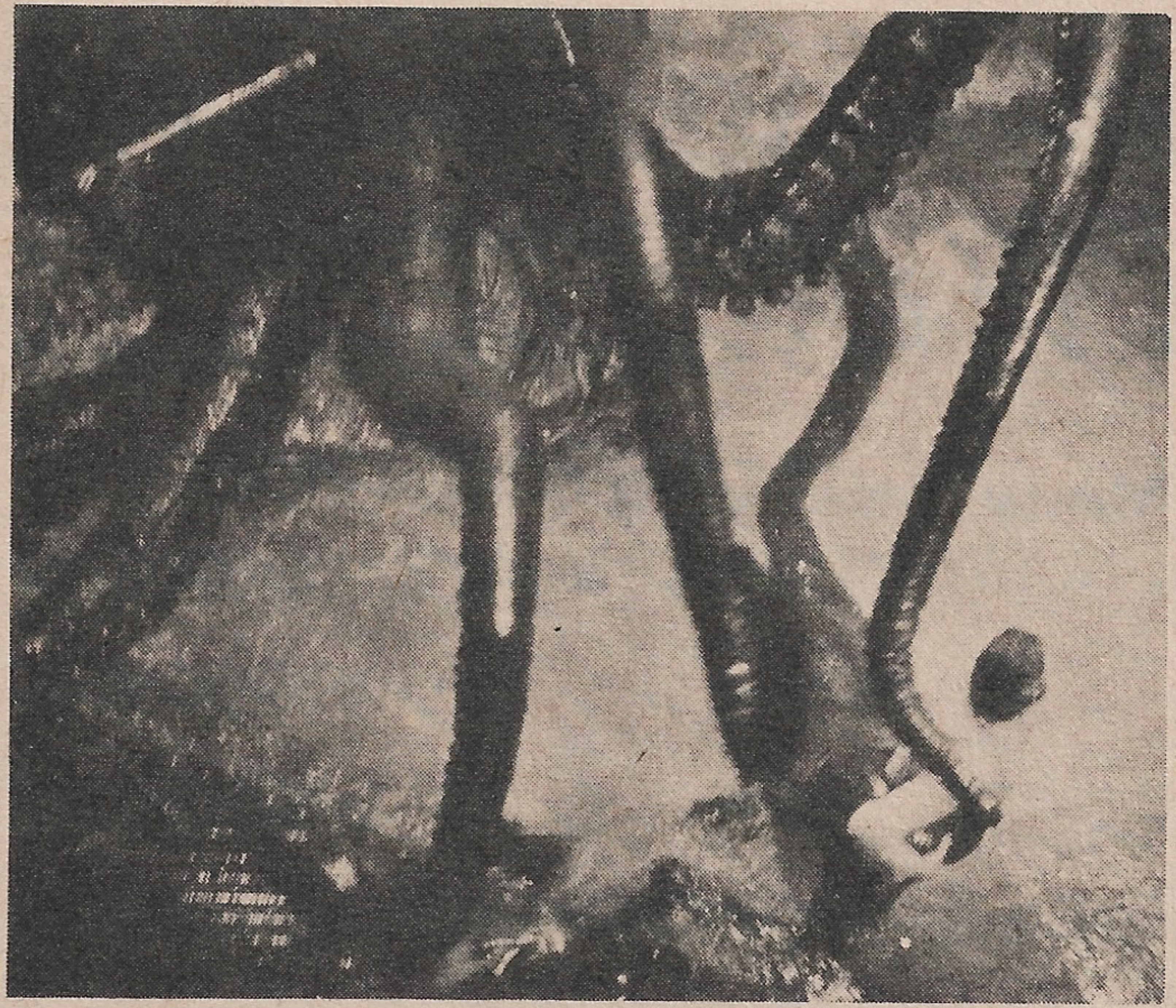
In 1873, three fishermen battled a Giant Squid off Newfoundland, and were saved when one member of the party managed to slice off an arm and a tentacle with an axe. And more recently in 1973 off the coast of Ireland, a trio of fisherman fought and won a battle royal with a Giant Squid (about 60 feet in length) which they tracked out into the open sea. Using a knife, they managed to slash away at the monster, until finally, there was little left except its head and body. The fact remains, however, a Giant Squid is best left alone.

Perhaps the best-known Giant Squid is the aquatic monster created by Walt Disney Productions for the film production of Jules Verne's famous novel, *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea.*

The film's plot revolves around the adventures of the crew of a fictional submarine, the *Nautilus,* which sailed the unknown realm beneath the seas in the year 1870. Among the technical problems which arose in making the movie on locations such as The Bahamas and Jamaica, was one involving deep-sea diving. In his book, author Jules Verne had claimed that the men of the *Nautilus* could don diving suits and walk about on the ocean floor without any air hoses or air lines to the submarine or surface.

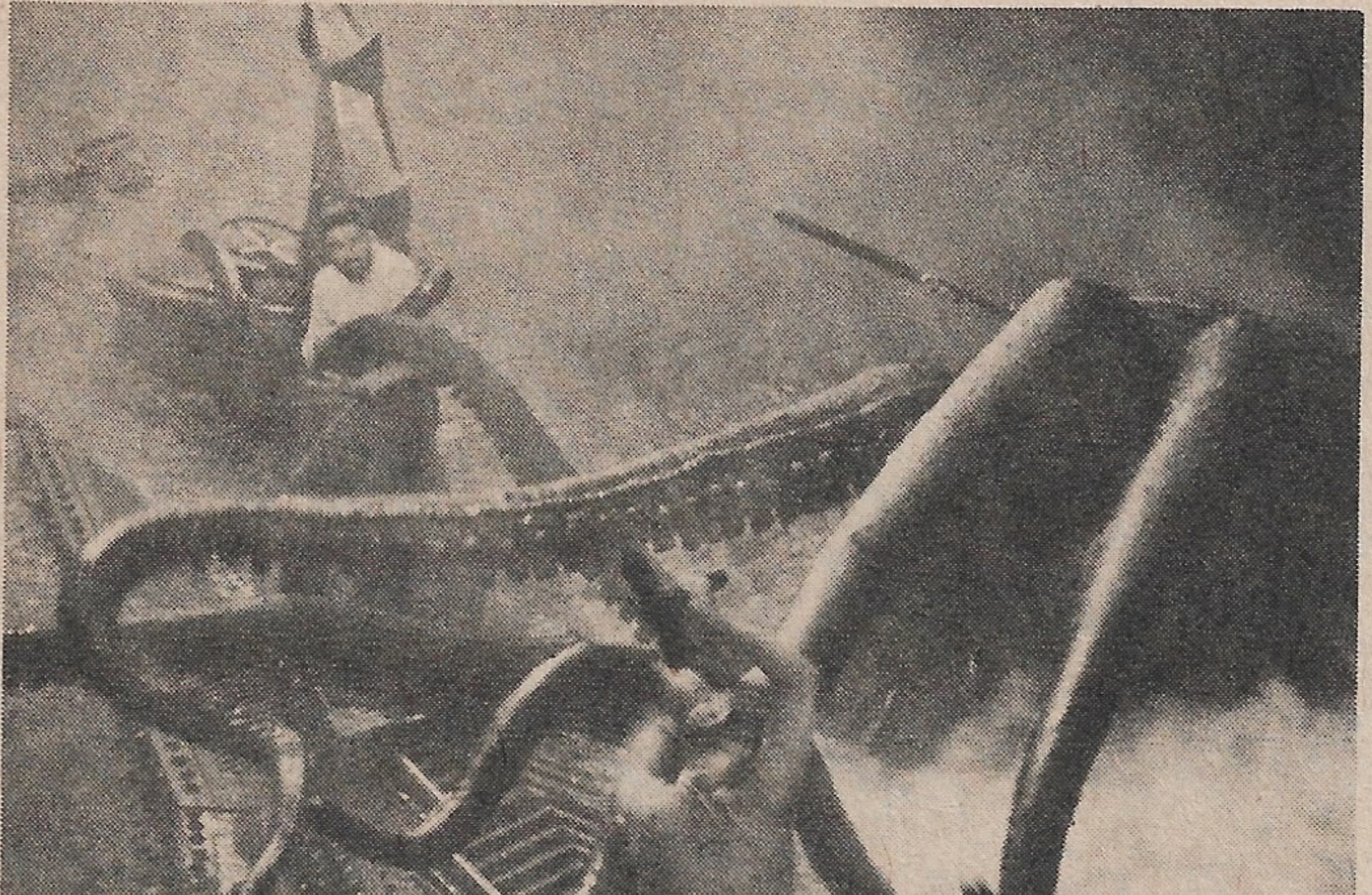
Giant Squid

Real Life Sea Monster Boggles the Mind. .



Already in the grasp of the Giant Squid's sucking arms, crew looks for help from their beleaguered submarine, the Nautilus."

Only one such self-contained suit had ever been tested. The British developed it as an emergency measure, using a chemical re-breathing process, but it was considered so hazardous that it was employed only during wartime on "suicide missions." After months of research, Disney's diving and designing experts came up with a practical suit which met all the requirements outlined by the French novelist. They combined a diver's helmet, a close fitting rubber suit and the aqualung. Air from the aqualung was piped, via an ingenious arrangement of tubes and hoses, into the diver's mouth. Believed to be the first practical self-contained diving suit ever invented, these handtooled, custom-made outfits weighed a staggering 225 pounds: lead-soled shoes, 40 pounds; compressed air tanks, 125; emergency tank, 10; helmet and breastplate, 20; and lead weights, 30. In addition, the men wore long underwear and wool socks for warmth, and heavy leather gloves to protect their hands from the razor-sharp edges of the coral reefs.



One crewman uses a mallet to hack away at Giant Squid's arms as battle for survival heightens. Scenes are from the Walt Disney movie, "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea," a Jules Verne novel.

The action peak of the film comes when the *Nautilus* is savagely attacked by a Giant Squid, one of the most awesome and feared monsters of the deep. More than $200,000 and eight grueling shooting days were required to bring this thrilling battle to the screen.

Weeks of painstaking research and voluminous correspondence with oceanographers and scientists around the world revealed that squids have been known to possess tentacles 90 feet long and weigh in excess of 20 tons! The Disney beast created is properly malevolent, with eight tentacles measuring 40 feet and two "feelers" of 50 feet. Its sharp, tearing beak is a masterpiece of horror that peers out at the hostile world through great yellow, baleful, bloodshot eyes. Weighing two tons, it's an intricate and complex piece of machinery. Constructed of rubber, steel spring, flexible tubing, glass cloth, lucite and plastic, it operates with the precision of a fine watch.

Cautiously moving along the submarine's shoulders, crewmen of the "Nautilus" position themselves for assault on Giant Squid.

Starting fully submerged, it could rear up eight feet out of the water, its tentacles and feelers moving with frightening realism and its head bobbing in any direction while the beak snaps ferociously. It takes a staff of 28 men to operate the intricate remote controls. Using hydraulics, electronics and compressed air, they succeed in giving the squid life-like appearance.

Loch Ness: Separating Legend from Fact

By Rosemary Hamilton
Scottish Field Magazine

There Are Many Tales and Legends About Loch Ness, Some True, Others Mythical. . .

IT WAS 10:50 on a warm sunny morning early in June, 1969. There was no wind and the water of Loch Ness was like a mill pond. Peter Hill, the dining room steward at Knockie Lodge, was driving his employer and a friend from Inverness airport to the lodge.

Shortly after passing Inverfarigaig, he stopped the car abruptly, leapt out and shouted, "Look!" The others followed and saw that he was pointing to an object in the water, perhaps a mile away.

It looked like three big blackish footballs, three or four feet apart, and was moving from close to Foyers across the loch at a speed of some five knots. The front 'football' was constantly in sight, the second and third sometimes disappeared beneath the surface though never at the same time.

There was an enormous bow wave behind the 'footballs'—it looked 300 yards long on each side and there was about that width between its two ends, suggesting a huge object moving beneath the surface of the water. Nearly three quarters of the way across the loch, it turned towards Inverness and continued in that direction for seven or eight minutes before disappearing completely. The bow wave remained in sight for a much longer period.

The three returned to the car and drove quickly to the lodge. They agreed to keep the matter to themselves until they had spoken to the Loch Ness monster investigation centre at Urquhart Castle. The centre was telephoned as soon as the lodge was reached and an investigator arranged to call early in the afternoon. He interviewed the three separately and they completed his forms.

At the end of the interviews he told them that identically the same report had been received from two people at Drumnadrochit and this was regarded as an authentic sighting.

Others connected with Knockie Lodge had seen the monster in the past. Early in November, 1968, Mrs. Helen Hasson, the head table maid, had been traveling on the bus from Inverness to her home in Foyers on a calm, sunny morning. There were two other passengers and one, Miss Eileen Smith, was Mrs. Hasson's neighbour.

Just before 11 the driver stopped the bus. They saw two football-like objects moving near the mouth of Foyers River across the loch. There was a bow wave behind. The 'footballs' were visible for some ten minutes and the bow wave for longer.

In July, 1968, on a hot still Sunday evening, Mr. and Mrs. Maclean, whose daughter Jaqueline worked in the office at Knockie, were with two friends at the hotel in Drumnadrochit. They sat by a window overlooking the loch. At about 7 all four of them saw two "footballs" followed by a bow wave in the middle of the loch which they watched for about ten minutes.

All of these sightings would be described as typical by those who know Loch Ness. The thing is virtually always seen in flat, calm, sunny weather conditions, either in the morning between 9 and mid-day or in the evening after 7. Foyers and Drumnadrochit are frequent sighting areas. The four sightings reported by Mr. Alan Wilkins on July 18 this year confirm the weather conditions, the times of day and, in all but the last of his sightings, the area.

Of course, reports do come from all parts of the loch. The monster has been seen on many occasions over many years from Fort Augustus Abbey, which looks straight down the loch, though the Benedictine Fathers have little to say about it. Quite frequently the bow wave is seen though nothing else is visible above the surface. This is an eerie thing. Two visitors to Fort Augustus in July, 1967, neither of whom had ever given much time or attention to the existence of this reputed monster, took a drive to Whitebridge after dinner one evening.

It was a quiet night and the light remained good until nearly 11.

Then a huge bow wave appeared, moving fast from close by the shore below towards the other side.

There was nothing on the surface to create it. Some huge and powerful object was moving just below the surface. The result was similar to the wave left by a powerful motor boat driven at high speed.

There are many tales and legends about Loch Ness. Some are known to be true, some are hotly disputed and argued about. It is the deepest inland loch in Western Europe though the depth given by geographers would be disputed by some local fishermen.

How deep is the 'deep hole'? they say, and figures given for that can vary greatly. It is true that the temperature of the water varies only one degree between high Summer and the icy ground conditions of January and February.

It is true that the body of a drowned person has never been recovered from the loch. A number of divers have gone down at different times but their published reports have revealed little. Some say the sights seen by them are too awesome for description. Coco the clown is said to have made a dive as a publicity stunt and suffered a breakdown lasting six months as a result.

It is rumoured that divers have spoken about caves and ledges below the surface of the water and beneath the land bordering the loch. That they have found the loch cuts into the foundations of the hills almost in layers, the first perhaps not deep down and cutting back ten or twelve feet.

Another twenty feet below; then the pattern is repeated and so on. The supposition is that these ledges are the reason why no corpse has ever been recovered; that they have been washed by the water onto ledges, partly out of water and standing in caves filled with dead air. Thus, the theory goes, the bodies might remain in a mumified condition for generations.

The idea of the ledges fits in with the widely held belief that centuries ago an underground river connected loch Ness with Loch Garry, Loch Quoich and finally the west coast. Some movement in the Earth's formation caused this waterway to be blocked and so the monster, then in Loch Ness, was unable to make its way back to the open sea. The River Ness is quite inadequate in size to allow a huge creature passage to the Moray Firth.

The people who live around Loch Ness have no wish for their monster to be caught or even identified. It is far more valuable as a mystery object or objects. It would be logical to deduce that there is more than one as records go back to the 17th century or earlier.

Whatever it or they may be—giant seals or giant eels—or something unknown, they bring an unpleasant picture to the mind, basking on the underground ledges with the dead. But the local people do not fear their monster—it has never attacked boats or bitten through heavy wooden oars like the beast of Loch Maree.

Most bathers are far more frightened of being bitten by one of the large pike that abound. But the loch is respected particularly by the fishermen who know it takes only thirty minutes of sudden winds to transform the water from a flat calm to vicious storm conditions with four foot waves.

At the first sign of bad weather they head for home and wisely never sail unless the forecast is good. It would appear that the monster likes good weather too as it is only seen on sunny, still, balmy days. Perhaps it knows that tourists will be watching then and amiably decides to satisfy their curiosity.

Respect is too mild a word to describe the attitude people have towards Loch Ness. There is a feeling of menace about the place; an aura of chilly silence. Some do not even like to look at its dark waters. Many more refuse to sail on them and this is not because of the monster which is looked on almost with affection and known as Nessie.

It is the place itself. It has never been given an easy familiar name as have many other Scottish lochs—Tayside and Lomond being two examples—it is always called Loch Ness and it is probable that the name would have been synonymous with mystery and dread without the presence of a monster. Perhaps the true monster is the mighty loch itself. □

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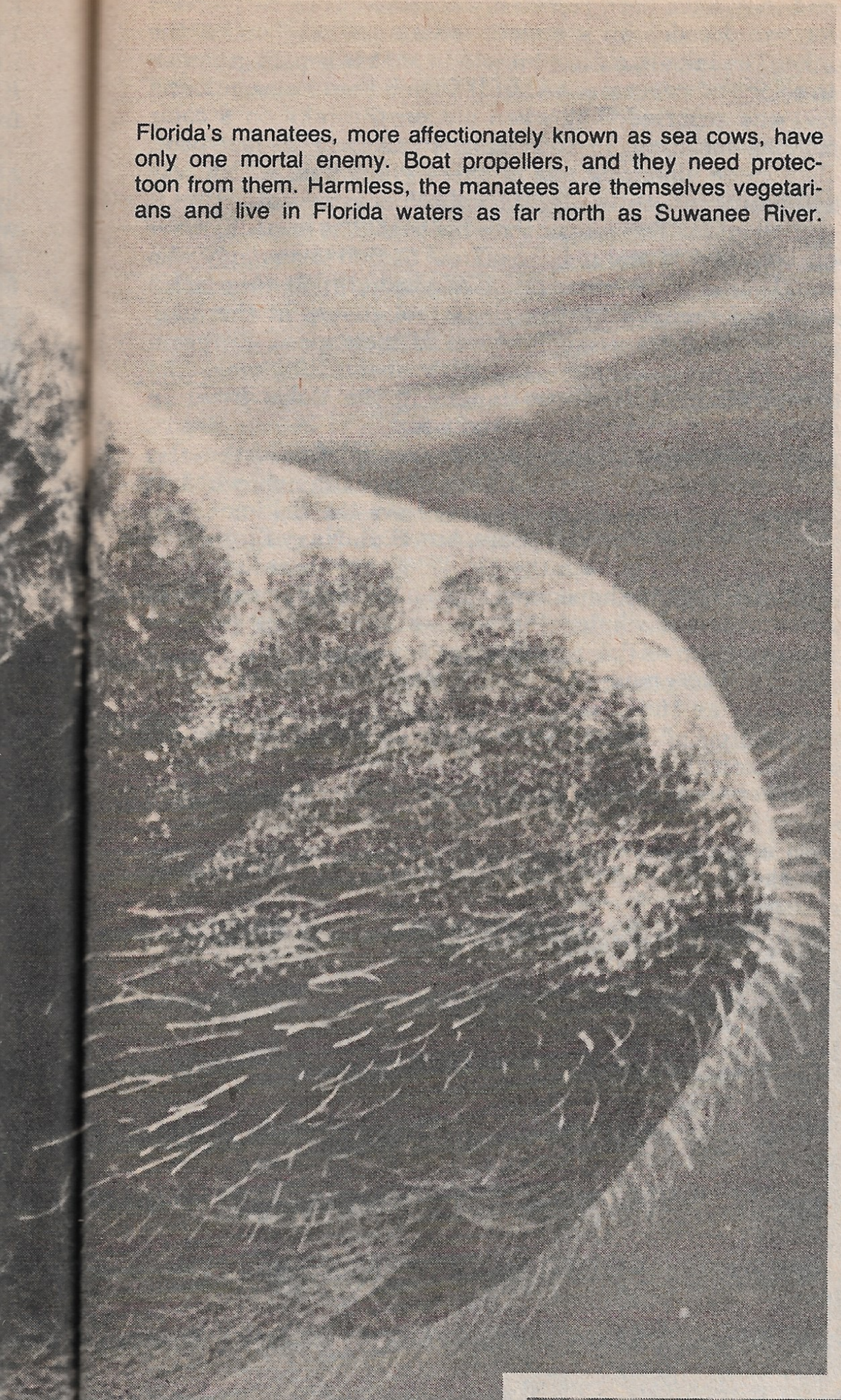


Florida's manatees, more affectionately known as sea cows, have only one mortal enemy. Boat propellers, and they need protectoon from them. Harmless, the manatees are themselves vegetarians and live in Florida waters as far north as Suwanee River.

Nessie Is Not Alone!

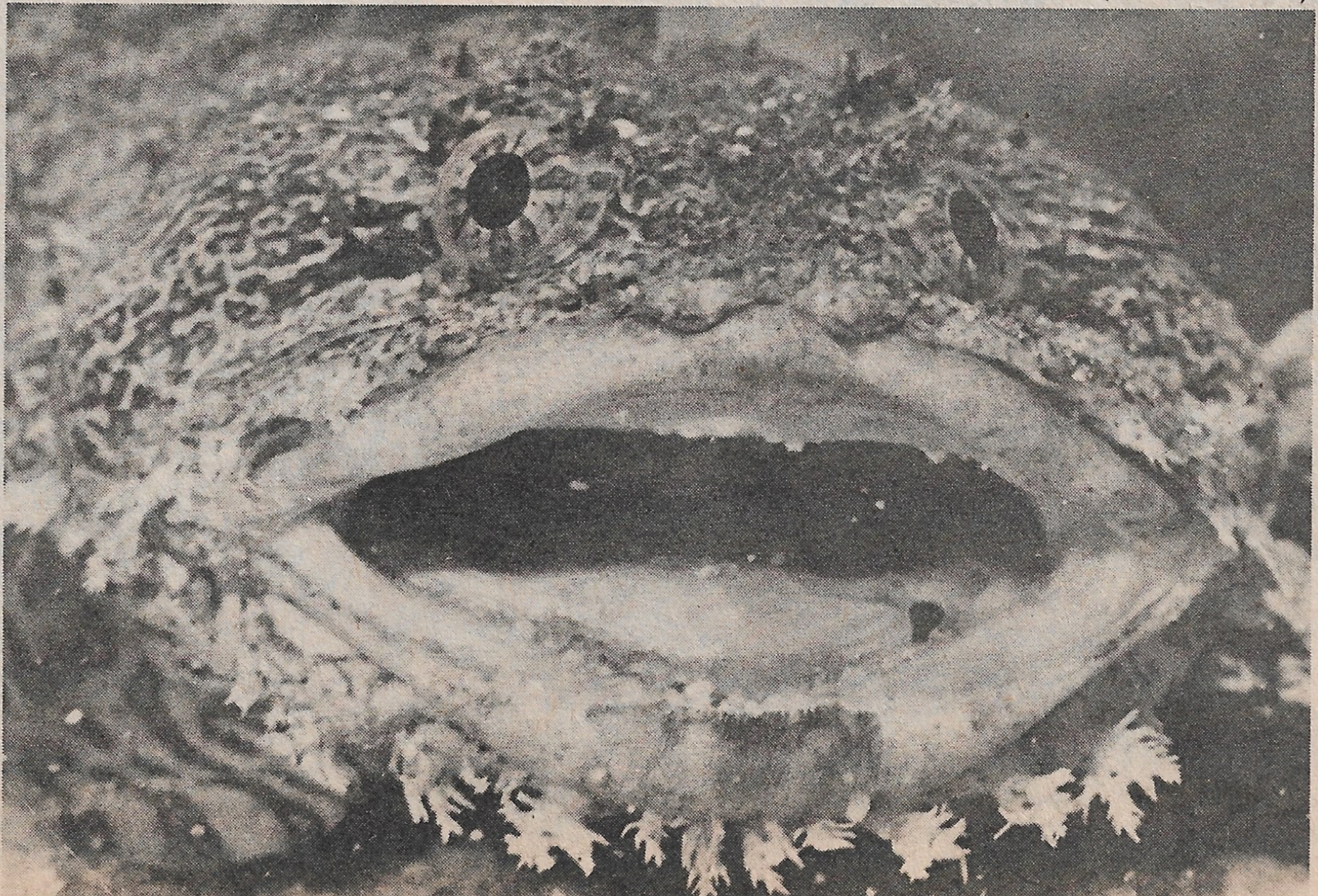
Other Aquatic Monsters Roam the Loch Ness Deep and Other Lakes and Oceans As Well. . .

The Loch Ness monster is not the only fish in the pond. Or, putting it another way, there are plenty of other aquatic monsters, or rumors of monsters, in many various parts of the world—like Ireland, Scandinavia, Russia, Siberia, Canada and the United States.

In his book, "Invisible Residents" (Thomas Y. Crowell Co., New York, 1970), author Ivan T. Sanderson deals with the phenomenon of worldwide monsters, writing, "These have been said to look more like gigantic fish or whales; in other words, to have been spindle-shaped and to have exhibited either no external excrescences, or what appeared to be fins. These have been usually attributed to giant strugeon, the best reported case being that from Lake Seton in British Columbia.

"There has been a tradition of very large specimens of these fish in this lake since before the white man's arrival,

Guaranteed not to pass along any warts, this toadfish bears a striking resemblance to its amphibious namesake, yet can't come close to hopping out of the water. The expression you see here on our toadfish's fair countenance is surprise (at the camera).

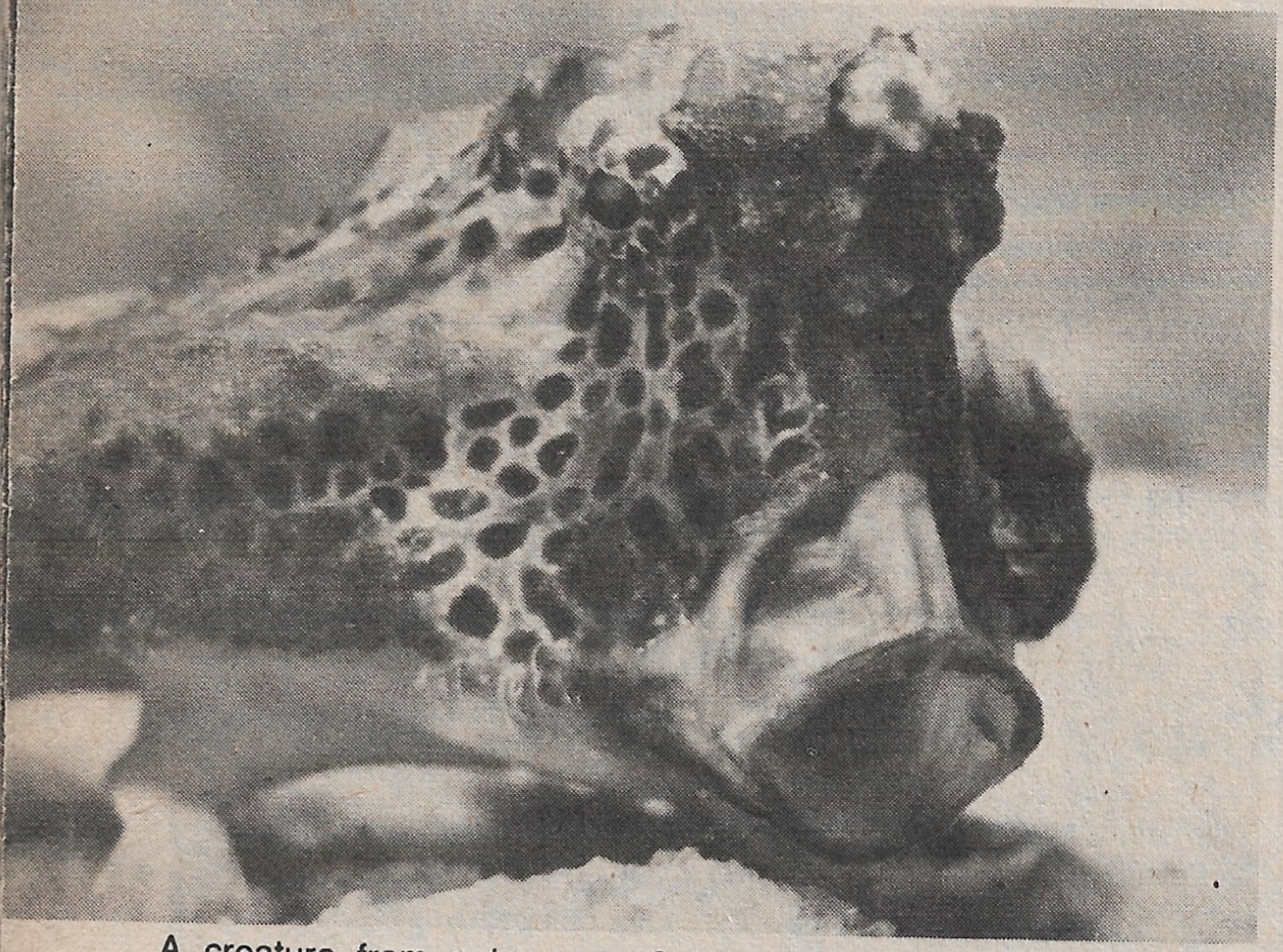


ODDBALL FISHES

& Other Strange Creatures of the Deep

By Braz Walker

Braz Walker's recent book, published by Sterling Publishing Co. of New York, deals with unusual dwellers of the marine depths.



A creature from outer space? Not exactly. He's a batfish from "inner space" at the Miami Seaquarium. The name is derived from wing-like appendages found on these diverse aquatic animals.

and they have been reportedly observed at close quarters for two decades by summer visitors and anglers on the lake. The lake itself is a bit odd in that it is pale greenish in color and never freezes. In 1964 one Paul Polischuk and his wife reported that when out on the lake on a clear Sunday morning, just cruising about in a 25-foot boat, they came alongside one of these giant fish, which was swimming quietly along. Mr. Polischuk later stated that it was about ten feet longer than his boat. The local chamber of commerce is said to have offered $1,000 to anybody who could land this monster. Everybody, including some educated, indigenous Amerinds brought up at the lake, asserted that the thing was one of their giant sturgeon. And there is nothing outlandish about this, since the record sturgeon that was caught in the Volga River in Russia, measured no less than 28 feet."

In addition to Lake Seton's "monster", Sanderson also tells us of "things" seen in Alaska's Lake Iliamna, which is virtually an inland sea. Not only have the Eskimos seen these creatures over the years, but U. S. Navy fliers have also spotted them from the air. What are these "things"? They are spindle-shaped and often have lengths similar to those of larger whales. But the natives of Alaska do not classify them as fish or any other animals.

Ireland has more than one legend involving a monster. As early as 1684, Roderick O'Flaherty, while describing the shores of Lough Mask, tells of a strange aquatic creature in his *Description of West or H-Iar Connaught:*

"There is one rarity more, which we may term the Irish

With a reach longer than the length of its body, the fresh water shrimp will seize opportunity to grab hold—of anything. A native of South America, creature is at Miami Seaquarium.

crocodile, whereof one, as yet living, about ten years ago (1674) had sad experience. The man was passing the shore just by the waterside, and spied far off, the head of a beast swimming, which he took to be an otter, and took no more notice of it; but the beast, it seems, lifted up his head, to discern whereabouts the man was; then diving, swam under the water till he struck ground;

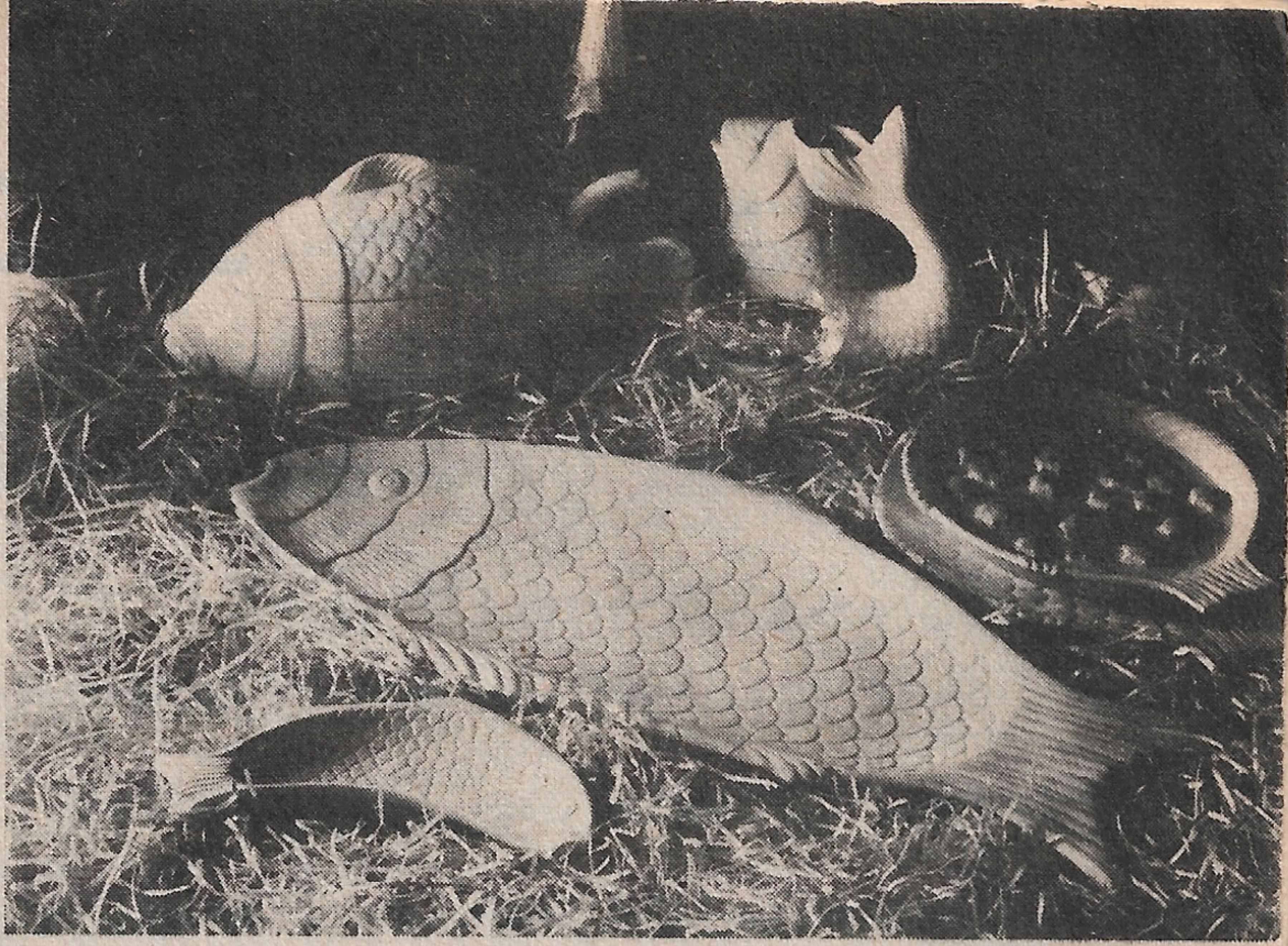
"Whereupon the beast run out of the water suddenly and took the man by the elbow, whereby the man stooped down, and the beast fastened his teeth in his pate, and dragged him into the water; where the man took hold of a stone by chance in his way, and calling to mind he had a knife in his jacket, took it out and gave a thrust of it to the beast, which thereupon got away from him into the lake.

"The water about was all bloody, whether from the beast's blood, or his own, or from both he knows not. It was the pitch of an ordinary greyhound, of a black slimey skin, without hair as he imagines. Old men acquainted with the lake do tell there is such a beast in it, and that a stout fellow with a wolf dog along with him met the like there once; which, after a long struggling, went away in spite of the man and his dog, and was a long time after found rotten in a rocky cave of the lake when the waters decreased. The like they say is seen in other lakes in Ireland, they call it Dovarchu, i.e., water-dog, or anchu which is the same."

On June 12, 1897, the *Wisconsin State Journal* reported the latest sighting of a "sea-serpent" in Lake Monona near East Madison:

"They say it was at least 20 feet long, and travelled east on the surface of the lake until Eugene Heath, agent of the Garr-Schott Company, fired several shots into it, when it turned and disappeared. Mr. Schott and others who saw the 'thing', whatever it may be, insist that it is a reality, and not a joke or creature of their combined imaginations. Its appearance is not exactly that of a serpent. Mr. Schott says, however, that he saw it plainly in the bright moonlight, and its shape was like the bottom of a boat, but it was twice as long. (That is, 30 feet or so.) Mr. Schott's two sons saw it, and were so firmly convinced that it was a dangerous animal that neither of the Schotts, who had spent a large part of their lives on the lake, would venture out on it."

In July of 1953, Russian geologist V. A. Tverdokhlebov headed up a survey of the Sordognakh Plateau in Siberia.



A dinner fit for a monster, or anybody else for that matter, can be served on these dishes and accessories from Ginori of 711 Fifth Avenue, New York. The white ceramic has naturalistic detail of eyes, gills and scales. Goes great with seafood!

The party arrived at Lake Vorota, a lonely and isolated body of water and one day while there, Tverdokhlebov and his assistant, Boris Bashkator, saw floating on the lake what they, at first, thought was an oil drum. But this oil drum was swimming toward the shore! They climbed higher for a closer look, as reported in the Moscow publication, *Prioda:*

"The animal came closer, and it was possible to see those parts of it which emerged from the water. The breadth of the fore parts of the animal's body, evidently the head, was as much as 2 metres. The eyes were set wide apart. The body was approximately 10 metres. It was enormous and of a dark grey color. On the side of its head could be seen two light-colored patches. On its back was sticking up, to a height of a half-metre or so, what seemed to be a kind of dorsal fin, which was narrow and bent backwards. The animal was moving itself forward in leaps, its upper part at times appearing above the water and then disappearing. When at a distance of 100 metres from the shore, it stopped; then it began to beat the water vigorously, raising a cascade of spray; then it plunged out of sight."

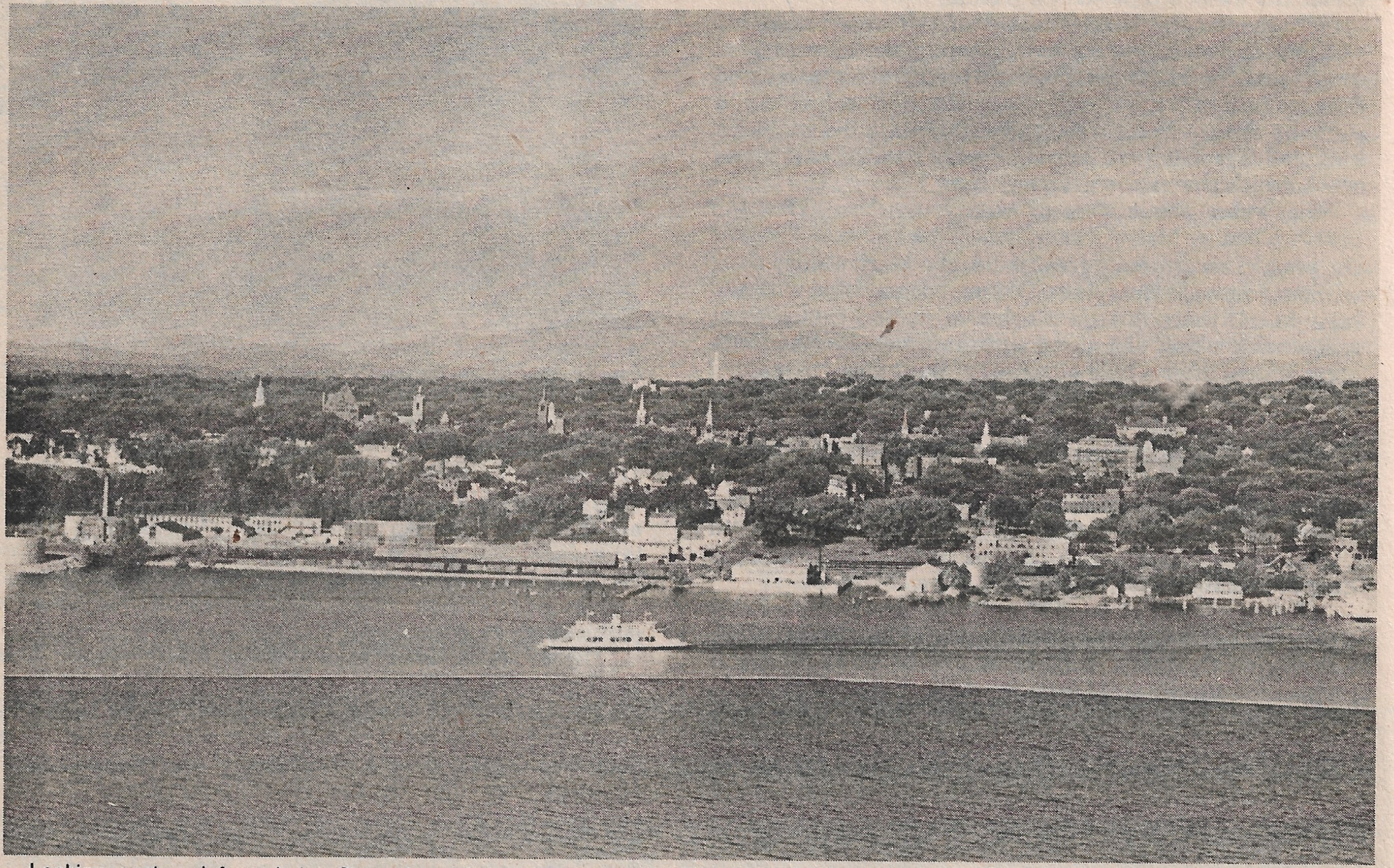
Though the two Russian scientists maintained a watch for nearly an hour, the animal remained out of sight. ☐

Seen at the Seaquarium

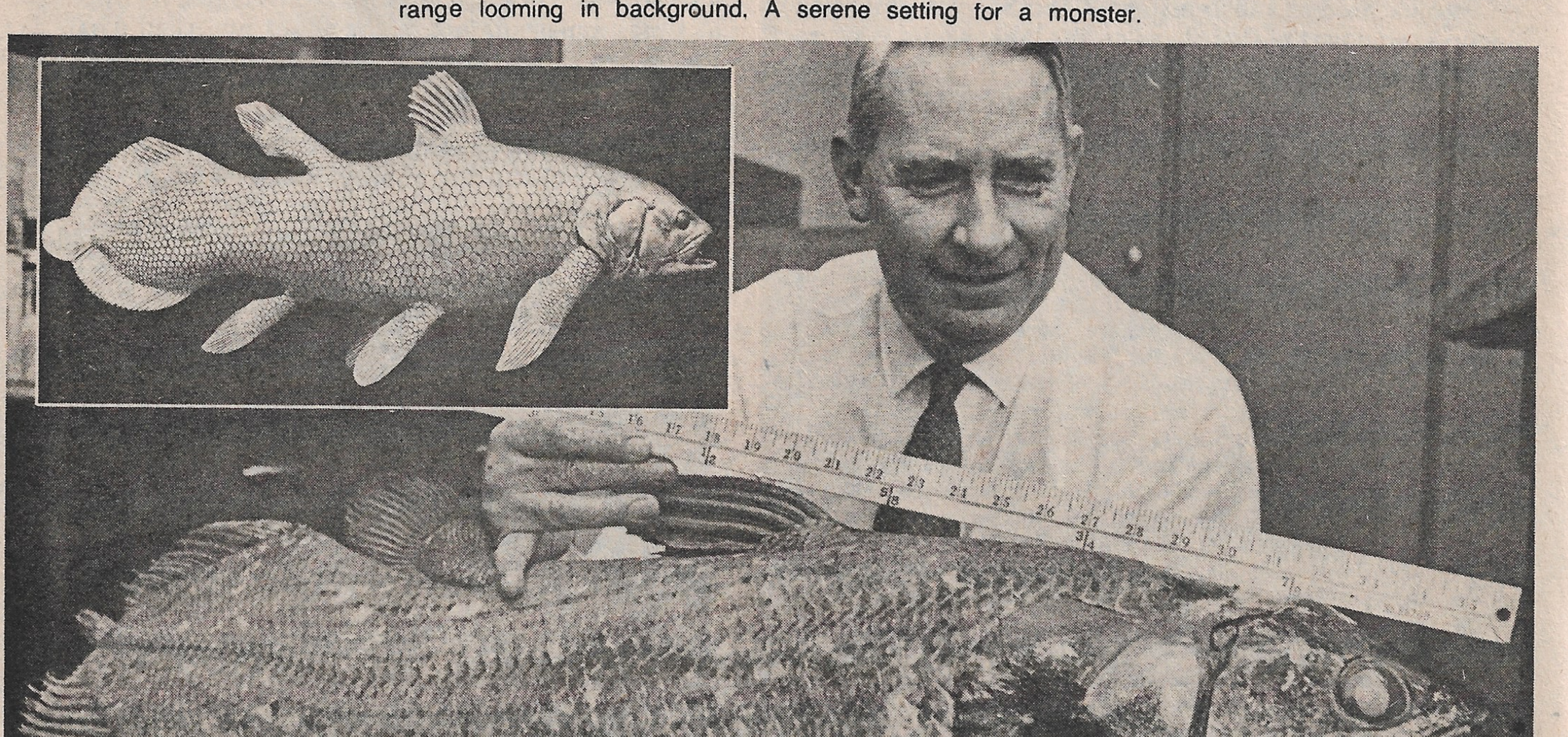
The strange, unusual appearing aquatic creatures pictured in this section (pages 52-55) can be found at home at Miami's famed Seaquarium where more than a million visitors come annually to see the "show." There they see the frolicking sea creatures; the feuds of the feisty fish; their home life; their families; their humor; the incredible lives of these sea creatures and what man is learning from them. These 60 acres of sea adventure roll faraway seas and ocean floors before your eyes, just across the bay from downtown Miami. Here, too, Flipper performs in her spectacular manner in the lagoon where the Flipper TV series was made. Here, the sleek talented dolphin with the perpetual grin, stars in her own show with three other dolphins as supporting performers. She leaps around her lagoon to her own theme song, taildances backwards and forwards, flips, jumps, talks and swims with her trainer. On the lower levels of the main building are two rows of large windows where visitors can watch the underwater action without getting wet. Giant green sea turtles and moray eels glide by, close enough to touch. Thousands of jewel-colored tropical fish shimmer in the waters of the adjoining reef tank while smaller viewing tanks hold rare species of fish and other aquatic wonders. Another major performance features Hugo and Lolita, the famous killer whales. The mighty underwater giants prove they're actually lovable as they gently maneuver their massive bodies to take a tasty morsel from their trainer's outstretched hand—just the morsel, not the arm itself.

The puffer fish, found in waters off Florida, holds his breath to ward off potential attackers. Doubly dangerous are hundreds of spines lacing the fish's belly. (Photos by Miami Seaquarium)

Has Anybody Seen



Looking eastward from Lake Champlain, one views the city of Burlington, Vermont, midst the trees, with the Green Mountain range looming in background. A serene setting for a monster.



Two views of an extremely rare fish that is often mistaken for a monstrous underwater creature of terrifying appearance. Its called the coelacanthe. This one measures 3-feet in length and weighs 30 pounds. It was caught off the coast of South Africa.

the Champ of Lake Champlain?

Said One Vermont Journalist: If Scotland's Loch Ness Can Have A Monster, Why Can't Lake Champlain Have One, Too?

The first eyewitness to report a monster in the waters of Lake Champlain was none other than the man for whom the lake was named—French explorer Samuel de Champlain. It was in July of 1609 when Champlain wrote that, while on the lake, he saw "a creature that was serpentlike, about 20 feet long, as thick as a barrel, with a head that resembled that of a horse."

Since that time, hundreds of other residents along the New York and Vermont shores of the 100-mile-long lake have reported sighting the monster, or *something* akin to a monster, in the usually placid waters. These sightings have increased in number, particularly during the last 100 years.

What makes the possible existence of a Champlain monster more intriguing is the geologic history of the lake itself which stretches from Canada into the United States, forming a natural boundary between parts of Vermont and New York State. There's geologic evidence that it once was a part of the Atlantic Ocean, possibly a bay or inlet, which was cut off and land-sealed by an earthquake or similar upheaval in prehistoric times. And the Lake Champlain monster, who is sometimes known as the "Champ," may be what's left of a family of sea serpents which were landlocked by the upheaval.

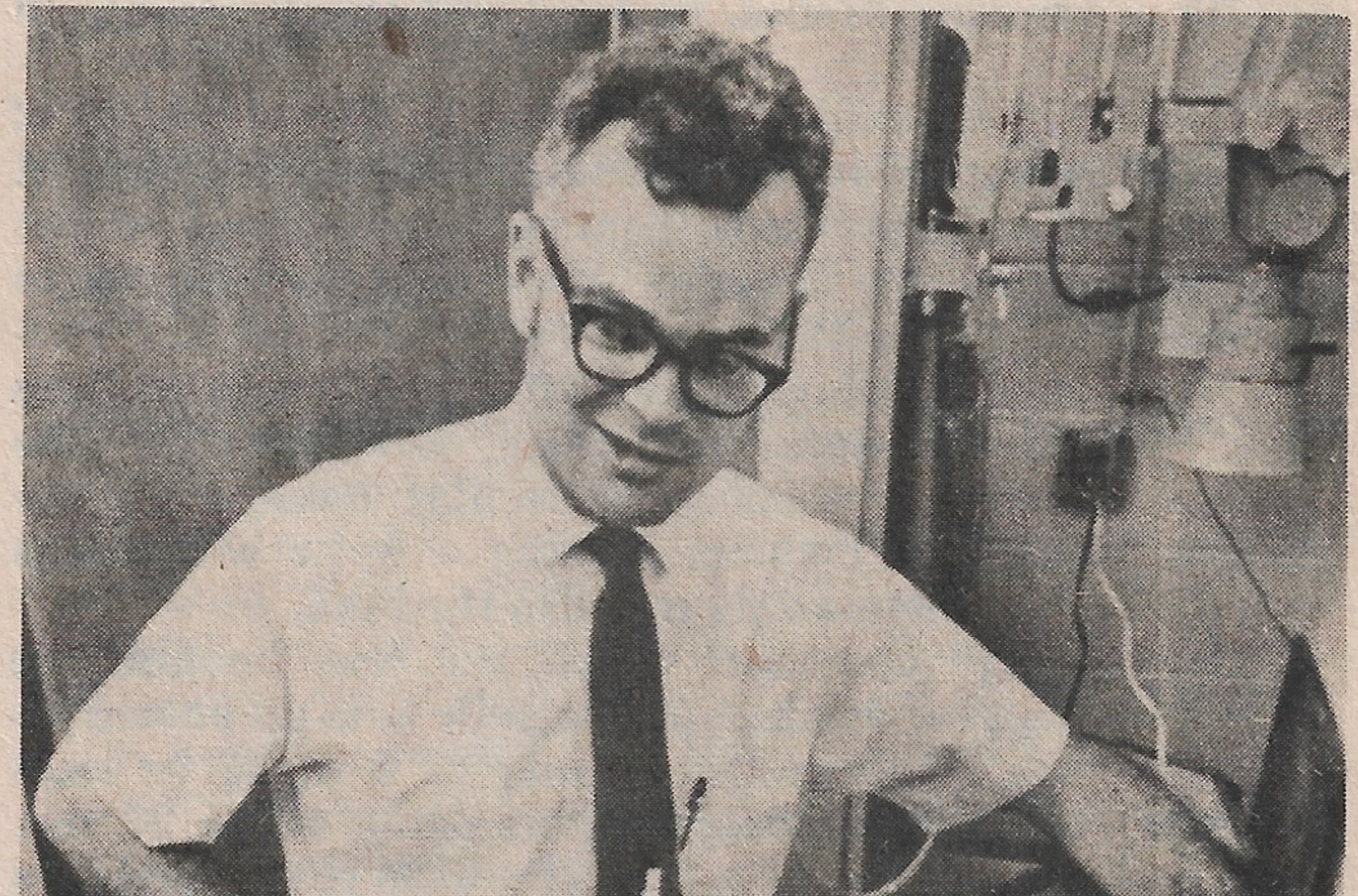
Since Samuel de Champlain's original sighting in 1609, the Champ has made appearances from time to time, like the one of July 24th, 1819, when it stuck its head above the water at Bulwagga Bay, scaring the daylights out of a community of pioneers at Port Henry. In the early 1870's, a group of tourists aboard a steamboat saw the monster as the boat neared the Vermont shore at Horseboat Bay. One seven-year-old girl in the group got so excited when she spotted the monster that she swallowed the boat ticket she held between her teeth!

On August 31st, 1871, the *Temperance Advocate* of St. Albans, Vermont, joined in with this sighting report: "The What-is-it? of Lake Champlain was again viewed near Barber's Point on Monday last. It was in full view of passengers aboard the Steamer *Curlew*, and saw an object projecting some distance from the water and going at railroad speed. Although viewed through a glass, it could not be made out distinctly. Parties on the New York side claim the water was strongly agitated for 30 or 40 feet from the erected head of the monster when in motion."

Still another sighting was reported on the New York side of the lake in 1877, this one in publisher Wendell Lansing's highly regarded newspaper, the weekly *Essex County Republican*. And the next recorded monster sighting apparently was that reported by Captain N. H. Mooney of Plattsburgh, New York, the sheriff of Clinton County. His observation came in August of 1883 near Cumberland Head while Mooney was moving over the lake from Adams Landing. He described the creature as about 25 to 35 feet long, with a head some eight inches wide and ten inches long.

The sightings continued on into the 1890's, and in mid-September, 1894, three men from the Plattsburgh area—Luther Hagar, Tim Miller and Frank Dominy—reported getting a close look at the monster while it was swimming near the southern tip of Cumberland Head. On hearing sounds from the wierd-looking creature, the three men asked themselves: "Could it be a sea dog, or a seal?"

This brought additional editorial comment from the Plattsburgh newspapers, such as: "We now hear the Champlain sea serpent is probably a sea dog which, as our correspondents say, is equally at home on land as well as water. The same authority hastens to add that it's a good little sea doggie, perfectly harmless, and hopes that



A 4-foot, 92-pound Latimeria chalumnae was caught off the African coast in 1969, even though it was believed to have been extinct for 60 million years. It was further proof that monster sized fish can still exist, perhaps in old Lake Champlain.

nobody will be cruel enough to kill it, or them, out of mere curiosity's sake. This is all very well, but public apprehension will certainly re-arise on consulting Webster to find that the definition of *sea dog* is 'a certain fish, *perhaps the shark*.' Then again, suppose the monster should turn out to be a sea dragon, or sea elephant, sea cow, or sea lion? Or perchance a large sturgeon which happened to get stranded on the reef? The latter probably is the most rational solution, but it's too commonplace to become popular."

The arrival of the 20th Century didn't dampen the monster's enthusiasm for making an appearance now and then. And in April of 1915, the *Burlington (Vt.) News* took notice of the strange goings-on in Lake Champlain:

"We're not too skeptical regarding the monster," the newspaper said, "which, according to Vermonters and Yorkers both, was enjoying the cool waters of the lake, possibly in some deep spot such as that off Split Rock Mountain between Westport and Essex. It might make dives there to almost 400 feet and have for company the bodies of drowned persons that never rise to the surface. It seems that, after remaining in seclusion for more than 22 years, the Champlain sea serpent has again appeared to the astounded inhabitants of this place. He was seen at the 1892 encampment of the American Canoe Association when, coming to the surface in the neighborhood of a flotilla of cruising canoes, he scattered the occupants in panic.

"The latest appearance, according to the testimony of several observers, was last Wednesday. When first sighted through a field glass, the serpent, said to be about 40 feet long, was apparently stranded on a reef at the entrance to Bulwagga Bay near the Crown Point fortifications. Presently he released himself and, after a few wild plunges which lashed the water into foam, he headed for the Vermont shore in great semi-circular sweeps, finally sinking submarine fashion, leaving a wake which was well defined on the glassy surface of the lake.

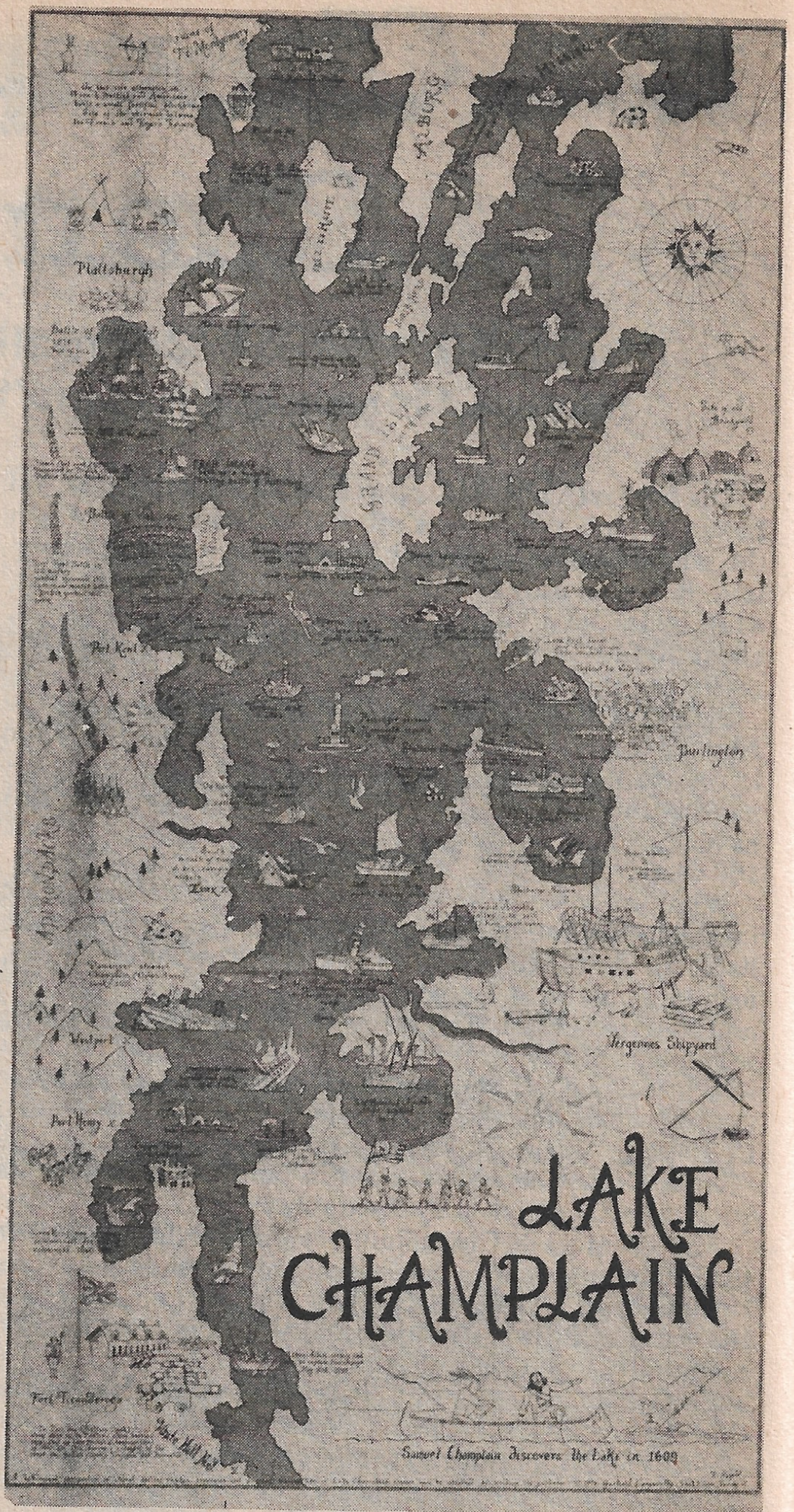
"This strange creature, which the less imaginative among the natives are inclined to believe is an enormous sturgeon, has attained the dignity of a place in local histories, where he is described as being about 20 feet long, as large around as a keg, of a drab color, having a row of spiky projections along the back, and horns like those of a huge catfish. It was seen near Fort Henry where, previously, no appearance of the sea serpent had ever been chronicled. The natives explain its debut this season by this hypothesis: that the lake being very low for this time of year, he has been obliged to turn farther afield for feed. His usual abiding place, they believe, is the deep part of the lake opposite Essex."

During the decades of the 1930's and 1940's, the observations and reports continued. In August, 1939, a couple was fishing in a boat off Rouse's Point when, suddenly, they spotted a creature jumping through the water and starting toward them. The couple steered straight for the shore, but said they had received "the fright of their lives." And in 1945, new reports out of Burlington startled the public on both sides of the lake:

BABY SEA SERPENT TAKEN IN VERMONT WATERS—MAY BE OFFSPRING OF LAKE MONSTER.

And under the headline was the story:

"A 14-inch reptile, taken in Shelburne Harbor by an employe of the Champlain Transportation Company, resembles, in miniature, descriptions of the lake sea serpent, giving rise to the pleasant supposition that it might be an offspring of the Monster of the Deep." The news account continued, saying the baby monster was taken in about four feet of water by Erwin Bell of Burlington. It resembled a small alligator except for its rather small jaws. Speculation took it to be some kind of a salamander.



Chasing the Monster

The July 15th, 1948, issue of *The North Countryman* reported two episodes in the Lake Champlain monster legend:

"Two residents of Rouse's Point, Arnold Scales and Robert Rochester, believe that they exploded the Champlain Sea Serpent myth last Sunday. The pair were standing on the shore at Point au Fer when they saw what they thought to be the "monster of the deep" headed south, its upper part on the surface a few hundred feet from shore. Mr. Scales got his rifle from the house and the two gave chase in a motorboat. As they overtook the "monster" it split, however, and the boat was soon in a school of big sheephead, a species of carp, that were evidently migrating up the Lake.

The serpent legend persists, however, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Langlois will never be convinced that the deep sea denizen that almost collided with their motorboat out in the Lake a few years ago, was anything but a genuine serpent. The local village board member was pretty shook up when he reached shore, and his wife went to bed for a week. Any number of perfectly reliable people will tell you, in all seriousness, that it's no myth.

In Burlington, retired professor Leon Dean, formerly of the University of Vermont Department of English, reported the experience of L. R. Jones in September, 1947. While on a fishing trip with two companions off the north part of North Hero Island, Jones gave this account:

"The lake was calm, the water sparkling and clear, the trio unsuspecting, when a tremendous splash attracted their attention. Out of the depths, as they looked, reared a huge dark form which moved swiftly off to the northwest. Its body was composed of three segments, separated by about five feet of water, and its overall length was estimated at about 25 feet. In the distance it surfaced again."

One of the more vivid sightings of the Champlain creature came on May 20th, 1960, as reported by Harold Patch of East Hardwick, Vermont. His account follows:

"It was on a quiet, summer day and my wife and I were driving south on U.S. Route 2 through Grand Isle County, with intentions of enjoying a picnic somewhere by the way. As we approached Dillenback Bay off the eastern shore of the Town of Alburg, we noted two picnic tables at a turnout on the left side of the road and, pulling off, we got our picnic basket and thermos of coffee and sat down to dinner.

"I sat facing the road; Mrs. Patch faced the lake. We'd just settled down to eating when she remarked, 'There's a fish or something out there disturbing the water.' The lake, incidentally, was perfectly calm, as smooth as a mirror. I twisted my neck around, looked across the bay toward the upper point of North Hero—and I expect my mouth dropped open!

"FISH!" I exclaimed. "That's the 'Champlain monster' we've heard so much about!"

"Fortunately we had with us a fine pair of 7 x 35 binoculars, which I at once got from the car, and for the remainder of our noon meal we took turns watching the unusual creature. It was at first headed in a northeasterly direction, slowly moving along, and for all practical purposes, basking on the surface of the lake. It would be difficult to accurately estimate the length of this unusual creature for it was probably 300 yards away, but I'd say it was at least 20 feet and perhaps nearly 30 feet long, and quite a few inches in diameter.

"It was definitely snake-like in form, but with one peculiarity: The loops of its body, instead of lying horizontally on the surface as a snake's would, humped up into the air vertically. It showed four or five of these vertical humps well above the water. At times it would rear its head up to a height of a couple of feet, take a look around, and then continue on its leisurely way. After a time, and when we were finishing our dinner, it slowly turned and started working back toward the area from which it came." Mr. Patch then expressed regret that he didn't have a suitable camera with him and how, since he has now purchased one, he never seems to sight the creature again.

Like you, Mr. Tremblay, I've been provoked a few times at the look someone would give me when I told them of this experience, for while they did not call me a liar, quite evidently they did not believe my account. Well—they can do as they like about that. I know what I saw and watched off and on for a half hour through seven-power binoculars, on a day when the lake was perfectly calm!—*Harold Patch, East Hardwick, Vt.*

In its issue of May 6th, 1971, the Burlington (Vt.) *Free Press* gave this report on how at least one area resident was keeping the story of the Champ alive. The news account, written by Betty Sproston, follows:

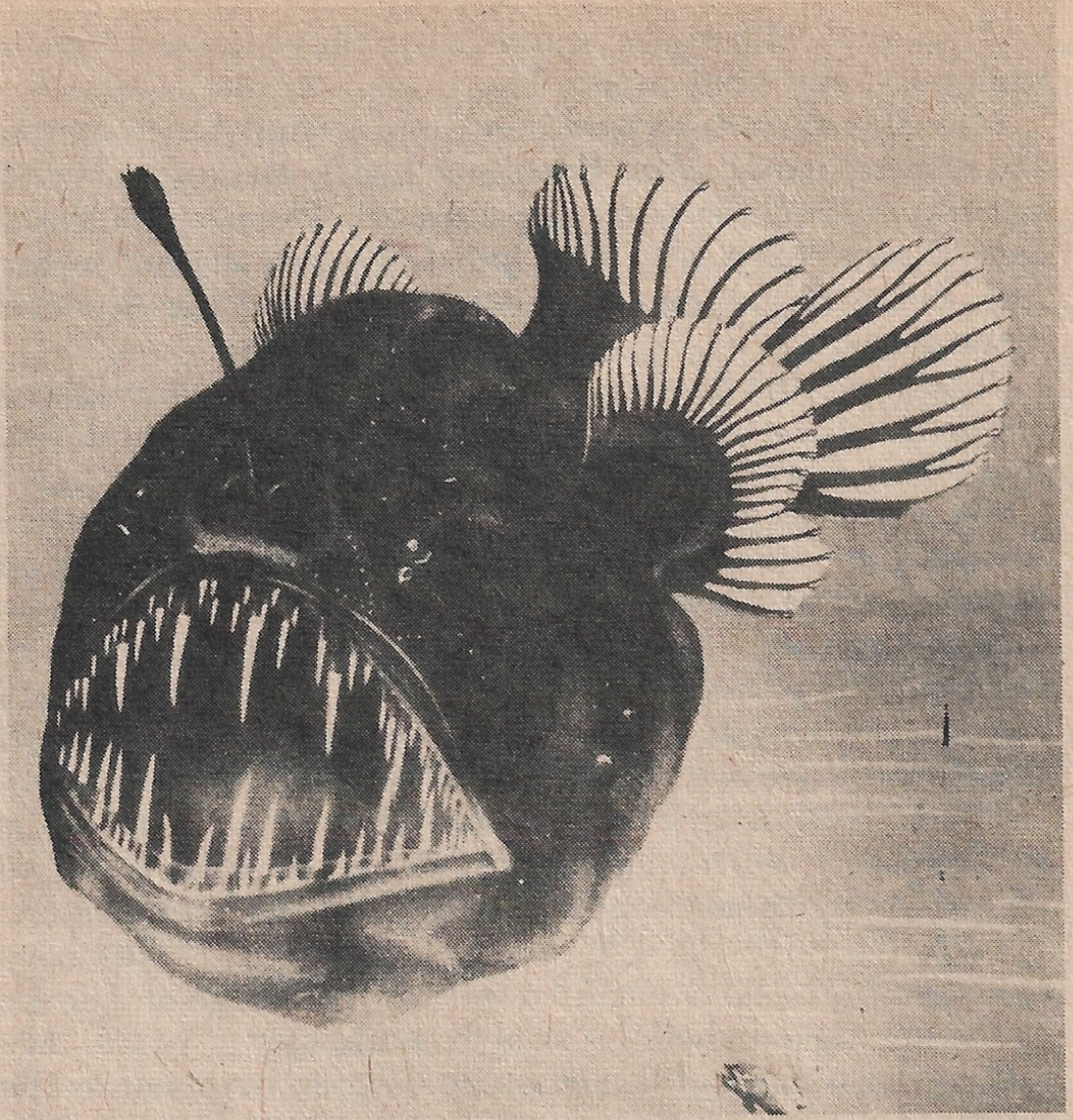
It's been almost a year now since Mrs. Grace Lee of Enosburg Falls became the latest believer in a long line of Lake Champlain sea monster viewers. She had "the chance of a lifetime and goofed," she exclaimed this week.

"I still get angry when I think about it," she said. She left part of her movie camera home on the buffet and couldn't take a picture of the Lake Champlain sea monster. Mrs. Lee, her husband and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Lee of Montpelier; Mr. and Mrs. John Farnham of Star Route, Middlesex, their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Warren of Montpelier, were all fishing Sunday, May 17, last year, from a favorite spot on the Isle La Motte bridge.

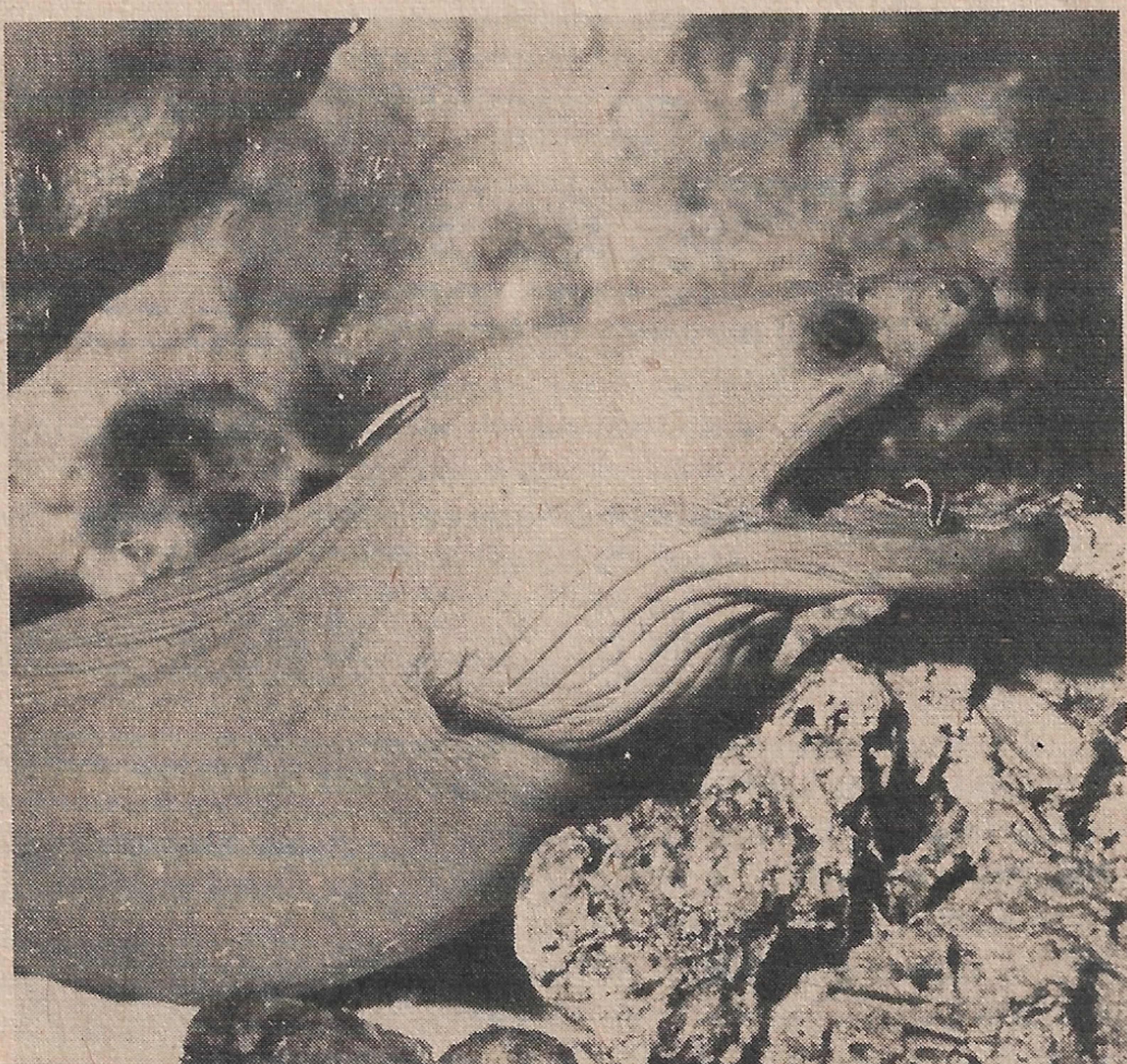
"After a time I noticed a short distance offshore something above water. At first I thought it was a fish jumping, but as I watched in that direction, suddenly I noticed the water starting to churn and ripple.

"A huge head emerged, followed by one, two, and three humps. It was dark in color, a greenish black. Its head was shaped like an eel or snake.

"I was speechless at first. Then I shouted to the others



A ceratus fish could qualify as a monster in anybody's lake.



Don't stick your hand into a hole inhabited by a mean-looking moray eel. It'll even bite the hand that feeds. But it won't bite a neon goby, a little fish that picks food particles out of eel's teeth, like a marine toothpick. (Miami Seaquarium) and pointed. While we watched, it played about, going under and surfacing again."

Mrs. Lee then described a curious circumstance among the fishing party. Mrs. Farnham had a strike, pulled in her line to find she had caught an eel. Then her husband caught one. Then Mrs. Lee found she had an eel on her line, but a much larger one which snapped the line and disappeared.

"Everyone in the party was watching me and laughing because all the while I was hauling in that eel I was screaming, Ugh!" exclaimed Mrs. Lee.

She said the party then noticed the sea monster had turned and was swimming toward the wooded area, and disappeared in the direction of Isle La Motte.

Mrs. Lee said, "My husband and I want to be added to the list of believers in the Vermont lake monster. Until I saw the thing with my own eyes, I really didn't believe all the stories I heard or read about the monster."

The *Free Press*'s Betty Sproston also came up with this story about a Vermonter named Robert E. Pike who had an intriguing theory concerning the Champlain monster:

Pike, who lives at 6 Winters Court, says, "I was born and raised on a farm within a mile of the bridge on Isle La Motte and have fished the area for a number of years. "My father told of a neighbor boy who became involved in the business of reptile raising back in the 1920s. He soon had a collection of snakes, lizards and alligators which had been shipped to him from other parts of the country.

"The boy apparently was successful enough that he was able to keep alligators through two Vermont winters in a deep pond which he had fenced. As the weather got cold, the reptiles apparently went into a sort of hibernation as do the northern reptiles, and survived.

"From the description passed on to me, it would seem that none was more than 24 inches at the time. As the boy's hobby waned, the alligators simply got loose and this would be assumed to be the end of it."

However, there is a sequel to this incident, about 20 years later. Pike said in the early 1940s he was helping to clean the mud from the bottom of a farm pond on the edge of a swampy area near the Isle La Motte bridge.

"We dug up what we are reasonably sure was a skeleton of an alligator, five feet or more in length. Could by some quirk of nature such a creature have survived and grown to this extent through Vermont winters for 20 years? Could there still be survivors or offspring?"

Pike admitted it seems improbable, but it is a question he has often asked himself.

Warren Smith, in his book, "Strange Secrets of the Loch Ness Monster" (Zebra Books, Kensington Publishing Corp., New York 1976, $1.75), gives an excellent account of the Champlain monster, its lore and its background. He also relates a sighting in 1972 by two New York scuba divers who were vacationing at the lake near Moquam Bay:

"Hearing a rumor about a sunken cabin cruiser down in St. Albans' Bay, they headed south along the lake's eastern shore. But Fred Shanafelt, 38, and Morris Lucia, 34, were unprepared for their encounter with the bizarre lake creature. As they told it:

"We were just getting up in the morning after camping out that night," Shanafelt recalled. "We decided to do a little diving after breakfast, while we waited for the fog to lift. There wasn't much traffic on the lake, but I've learned to be cautious when you're in a small boat. Morry had been in the water a couple of minutes, swimming a little ways offshore, when I came down to get in. We were planning to go out and see if there was a drop-off in that part of the lake."

Both men were in the water when Morris Lucia motioned to his diving partner. "He was frantically signaling to me," said Shanafelt. "From his actions I knew

Anyone at home? That's a California moray eel paying a call.

A View of the Legend

Mr. Leon W. Dean, of Burlington, Vermont, a retired professor of English at the University of Vermont, sent along a few notes on the Champlain monster, which follow:

Tales of the presence of such a creature have been long existent, but it is only within recent years that the weight of evidence has become too great to ignore. One can say it is optical illusion, a product of the imagination, or what one will, but there have been too many sightings by all manner of people, qualified and unqualified, to lump them all together and argue that what they see is merely a floating branch, a tricky wave, a surfacing sturgeon, or a formation of swimming ducks. For several years I taught a course in folklore at the University of Vermont in connection with my other subjects, and therefore was naturally interested in such things as the monster, but my students seldom brought in any material on the subject. Early newspapers only now and then reported an incident, and were obviously as skeptical as other folk. It's only within recent years, one might say, that the creature has surfaced and demanded anything like serious attention. Take my friend Harold Patch, for example. A few years ago, say in the early part of the century, he wouldn't have been traveling, would not have had a pair of binoculars with him, would doubtless never have heard of the monster, would probably never have thought of notifying a paper about what he had seen. Even under present conditions, when everybody is going everywhere, seeing everything, and telling the world about it, he was some 15 years before breaking into print. What I am getting at is that an object like the monster is much more likely to be seen now and reported, than under former conditions.

At first blush it seems odd that no member of the monster family along the lake has ever, so far as I know, been caught alive or observed dead, but how could a person in any ordinary way capture such a creature? And who ever found a wild animal dead in the woods? The things might live in their own world and die in it without anyone being much the wiser. Occasionally a sighting has something peculiar about it that makes it more distinctive and memorable than the usual run. I recall an incident where a Burlington doctor was one night crossing the fill that connects the big islands at the northern part of the lake with the mainland when his headlights picked out a grotesque reptilian object, large enough to be one of our monsters, crawling from one side of the broad fill to the other. He stopped his car and watched it, I believe, until it slithered into the water on the opposite side of the fill from which it had obviously emerged and disappeared. The unique point of the incident is that the thing, whatever it was, was navigating on land, as these creatures are sometimes reported as doing, although I have never heard of any other such case in connection with Lake Champlain.

we were in some kind of danger. After he saw I understood the situation was dangerous, we both started back to shore. I surfaced about ten feet out, looking back to see what had given Morry such a fright. That's when I saw this thing that couldn't have been anything other than a sea serpent. Christ! That sounds crazy but there's no other way to explain it."

Both Shanafelt and Mucia gave identical descriptions of the creature. "It was hard to judge how long the body was," said Lucia. "I estimated around 40 feet and Fred believes it was more like 45 to 50. We agreed the head looked about like a horse. It was slightly rounded in appearance, a sort of mushroom gray in color. The head sat on a long, round neck that was dark brown or black. The neck rose up about eight feet out of the water at the highest point."

The Champ moved closer to shore as the two divers rushed to the beach. "I don't think it was threatening us," opined Morris Lucia. "Once, it cocked its head in a child-like manner as if it was curious about our appearance. It didn't make any effort to harm us. I think we could have gone right back in the water without fear of being hurt. Of course, I wouldn't have done that for a million dollars, on the spot."

The magazine, *Vermont Life*, in its issue of Summer 1970, offers a national view of the phenomenon, just to keep the record straight:

"Of the 54 species of fishes inventoried in Lake Champlain between 1817 and 1897, none, even by the wildest stretch of the imagination, measure up to the unknown monsters sighted periodically during the past 360 years. True in comparatively recent times, geologically speaking, many of the known species now in Lake Champlain entered from the tidewater of the St. Lawrence via the Richelieu River. Others, the sea lamprey, sturgeon, gar, bowfin, ling and smelt came much earlier, when the Champlain area was an arm of the North Atlantic.

"But of all the known fish in the lake it seems likely that the sturgeon, which sometimes "porpoises" in hot weather, could be responsible for some of the serpent reports. Huge carp also, in the late springtime, occasionally are seen at considerable distance, traveling near shorelines in great flotillas, only half submerged, their backs fully exposed and mossy in appearance, creating great wakes behind them. Others have conjectured that otters swimming, as they sometimes do, one after the other, might be mistaken for a single serpent-like creature.

"Still, these suggestions do not account for or in any way match some of the descriptions provided in detail by reliable witnesses. If the unknown creature is a huge aquatic mammal or a reptile, the question remains; how could it survive when the lake is locked solid with ice? If it is not then a common fish or mammal mistaken for something else, it must be a monstrous, eel-like fish, which most of the time lives in the lake's extreme depths. This, until a photographer makes an historic shot, must do."

The goosefish has been known to cause an outbreak of gooseflesh.

Whenever the Champ seemed destined to be regulated to the realm of mythology, it was E. F. Crane, editorial writer for the Burlington *Free Press*, who would come to the mobster's rescue. Wrote Mr. Crane:

"This effort to debunk, eliminate and permanently bury the Lake Champlain Monster will not work. Such a well-authenticated inhabitant of the Lake, made famous by generations of tall-tale-telling fisherfolk whose screams have caused consternation on both Vermont and New York shores, cannot be so suddenly sent to oblivion. If Loch Ness can have its Monster and capitalize on it year after year, is there any reason why Lake Champlain can't have one, too?"

A Champlain Expedition

While the elusive monster continues to appear and disappear, the Bierman-Zarzynski Expedition continues apace. In fact, John Bierman, 26, of Dewitt, New York, and Joseph W. Zarzynski, likewise 26, of Saratoga Springs, New York, plan to write and publish a full length book on the Champlain monster at some time in the not-too-distant future. As Joseph Zarzynski details the Champlain Expedition:

"Let me now take the time to explain the role and purpose of our still continuing expedition. For over a year and a half we have devoted our free time toward investigating the Lake Champlain Sea Serpents. Our primary goal is not to enhance our prestige, but to shed light upon the enigmatic Champ. Should they exist, and I believe in their existence, then a law should be proposed to protect these creatures. Scotland has a conservation law under which the Loch Ness Monster now is protected. Hopefully, the Champlain Sea Serpents will enjoy a similar act of protection. If our small two-man team can persuade the scientific community to investigate Lake Champlain, then maybe the riddle of the sea serpent sightings can be explained. When the time comes we will gladly assist any scientific institution or organization in any way we can, to seriously investigate Lake Champlain and its phenomena.

Lake Champlain is one of two American lakes that have a history of consistent sightings of lake monsters (the other being Flathead Lake in Montana). However, there are some sightings that go unrecorded for fear of ridicule. This fear was not so once, when during the heyday of the Lake Champlain Sea Serpent scare (1870's-1890's), people readily spoke of a sighting. During those three decades the Champlain species was the world's most famous sea serpents or lake monsters. P.T. Barnum, of circus fame, in 1873 offered $50,000 for the carcass of the Champlain Sea Serpent.

Lake Champlain is probably the home of a small community of sea serpents that may possibly be 45 to 50 feet in length and dark in color. These creatures have defied man's detection by developing unique senses and habits over the years that limits their surface activity to a minimum. Champ was probably trapped in the lake coming from the sea (Lake Champlain was part of the sea about 12,000 to 15,000 years ago). As to the identity of these creatures, it would be foolish to offer a guess. After conducting a 2-weeks water watch from the shores of Lake Champlain in late June-early July '76, Mr. Bierman and I feel a land shore watch with sophisticated camera gear is still unlikely to bring positive results. Lake Champlain is over one hundred miles long and up to 11 miles wide at some spots. A shore watch would not cover that much lake surface due to the irregular shoreline and the lake's vast size. An underwater camera setup at a strategic location similar to that in Urquhart Bay at Loch Ness would probably bring better results. And finally, all the available information of sightings of Champ that we have poured over, leads me to believe that Lake Champlain is the home of a small community of large unexplained creatures. *There have been too many good sightings by too many reliable people to deny there is a sea serpent in Lake Champlain.* Many people, however, have seen a sturgeon, bird, or wave and misinterpreted it as a monster. However, some have been fortunate to see a wonderful sight—His Majesty, the Great Lake Champlain Sea Serpent.

A dark, snaky "monster" was spotted (see arrow) in waters of Lake Lucerne by about 20 people at Brunnen. Hoping to make a picture of the strange creature, tourists swarmed into town.

WHAT'S THAT IN LAKE LUCERNE?

Hundreds of Tourists Gathered, Their Cameras at the Ready, When A Swiss "Monster" Surfaced

The *Agence France-Presse*, a French news wire service, broke the story world-wide on August 30th, 1976. And it appeared very much as though Switzerland now had its own lake monster, a "Heidi Loch Nessie" as it were, for there in the middle of beautiful Lake Lucerne was a strange creature. The news items read:

> BRUNNEN, Switzerland—A 50-foot monster has been spotted in Lake Lucerne, the Swiss press reported, with photos showing two dark patches on the water's surface. Hundreds of camera-carrying tourists were here over the weekend, hoping to catch a glimpse of the underwater beast. The head of the local tourist office denied the monster's appearance was a "put-up" job to attract visitors. However, a zoologist says he would be astonished if a monster had suddenly appeared in the middle of Switzerland.

The Lucerne "monster" chose the right time of year to make an appearance, insofar as the tourists are concerned. In the late summer of every year, music-lovers throng to the Lucerne area for the International Festival of Music, the performances being given at the Municipal Theatre, the Kursaal, the Art Gallery, the Congress House and the Wagner Museum in suburban Tribschen. Richard Wagner had lived for a time in Tribschen and once declared his deep attachment to the town with the words, "Nothing will ever make me leave this place."

Perhaps this attachment to Tribschen had a great deal to do with his reason for coming there in the first place. After all, a musical composer who snatched away his best friend's wife and gave her three illegitimate children after having had an affair with a male monarch, would make good copy even for today's Sunday newspapers. It was the scandal of the 19th Century, but Richard Wagner not only did it, he also got away with it.

The appearance of the "Heidi monster" in Lake Lucerne was bizarre enough, but visitors to the Wagner Museum at Tribschen probably know little of the equally bizarre events that sent Wagner into exile there during the period, 1866 to 1872.

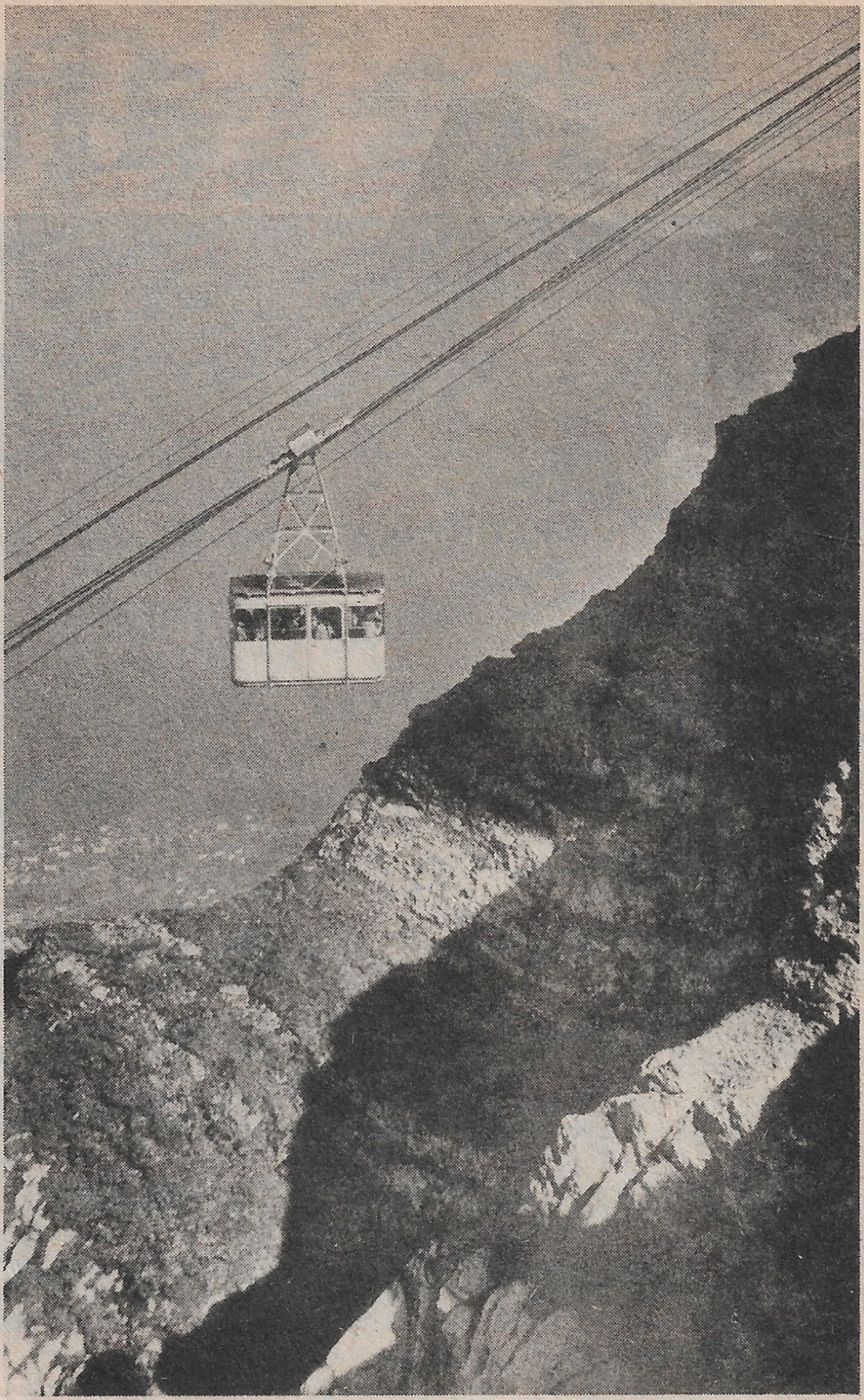
It all began when Wagner was presented to young King Ludwig II of Bavaria. A less likely friendship is hard to image; the 51-year-old atheist composer revolutionary who was deeply in debt, and the newly-crowned boy king, an introverted youth who had admired Wagner since puberty. There was a magnetic mutual attraction despite the generation gap, and the king instantly became Wagner's patron, pressing on him a retainer of 8,000 gulden annually and defraying debts of over twice that sum. Ludwig's dream was to make Munich the musical capital of Europe and Wagner needed money, so these strange bedfellows set about planning a grand new opera house. But the Bavarian government did not share their enthusiasm, and the scheme faded away. And by December, 1865, the Bavarian newspapers had launched a strong verbal attack against Wagner, the revolutionary, and Ludwig could no longer guarantee the composer's safety.

Earlier in life, Wagner had married an actress, Wilhelmina Planer but after 25 years he tired of her. Then he fell in love with Cosima von Bülow, wife of his best friend and famous German conductor. Cosima was homely but ambitious, and she was an illegitimate child of still another musician, the insatiable lover, Franz Liszt. While her husband was away conducting in Basel, Cosima moved into Tribschen with Wagner, bringing the two von Bülow children with her. Over the next few years she bore Wagner three children. It must have made a full house, and not in poker. Poor von Bülow swore to never again raise his baton to a musical score composed by Richard Wagner.

But Wagner went on to compose some of his most important works in his home beside Lake Lucerne. He was truly an enigma as a human being. Composer, anarchist, bisexual libertine and tender father, he was a man for all seasons.

Had the Lake Lucerne "monster" appeared during his sojourn in Tribschen, Wagner would no doubt have written an opera about it—a musical score which might have been just perfect for a movie.

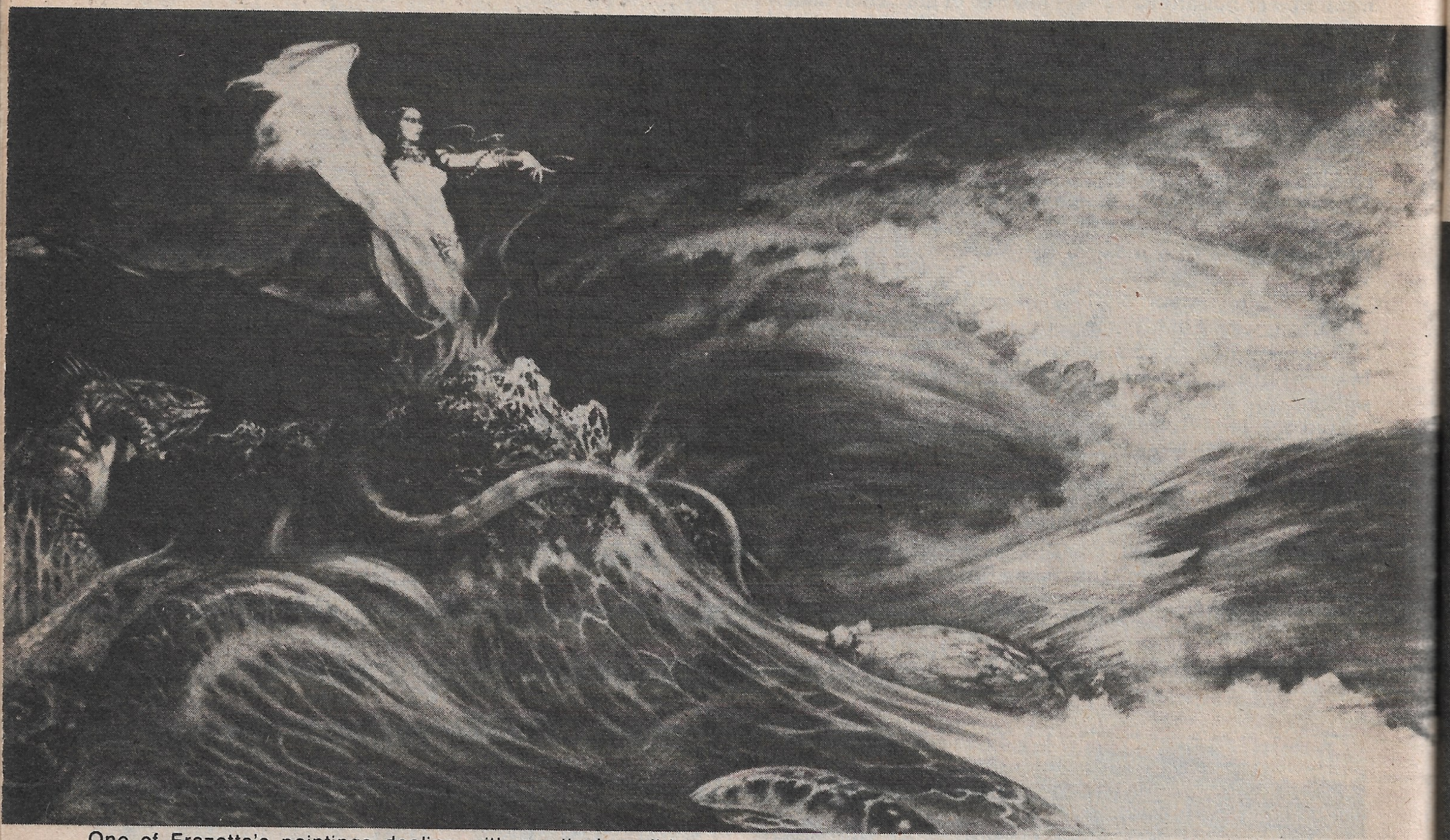
For as it turned out, the Lucerne "monster" was later unveiled as an "inflated" creature—especially launched as the "star" of a motion picture being filmed on the shores of the beautiful lake.


A popular excursion from Lucerne, this aerial cable car climbs to the dizzy heights of Mount Pilatus, ascending 2,000 ft. in 7 mins.

Lying serenely between the Urmi-mountain and the waters of Lake Lucerne, is the holiday resort of Brunnen in Switzerland.

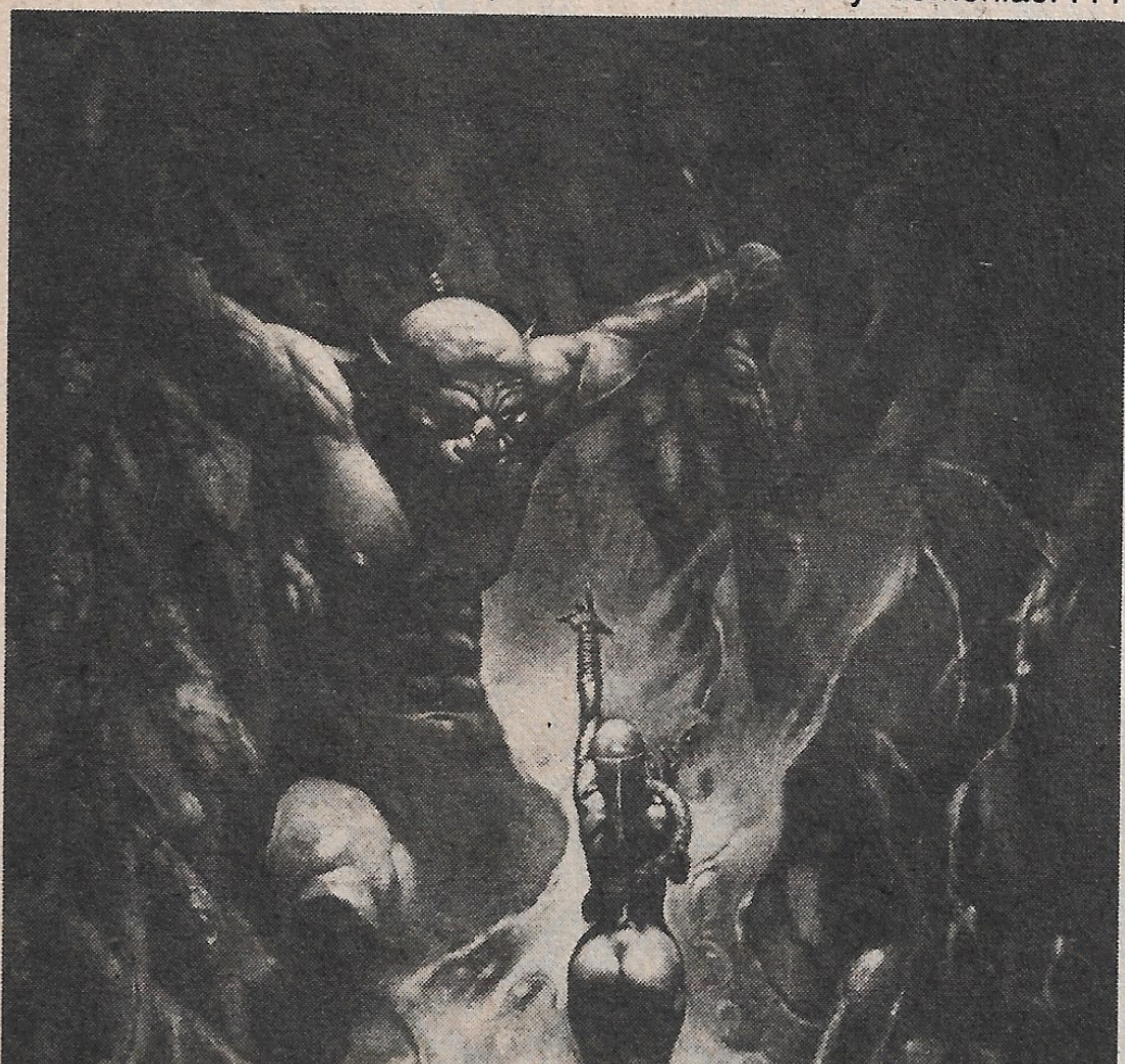
On the shores of Lake Lucerne, the holiday village of Vitznau with the mountains of Central Switzerland rising in background.

The Fantastic Art



One of Frazetta's paintings dealing with mystical qualities of the sea is "Sea Witch", with monsters attendant all around.

It doesn't take a second look to figure out why Frazetta called this painting the "Swamp Demon." It's strictly demoniac. . . .



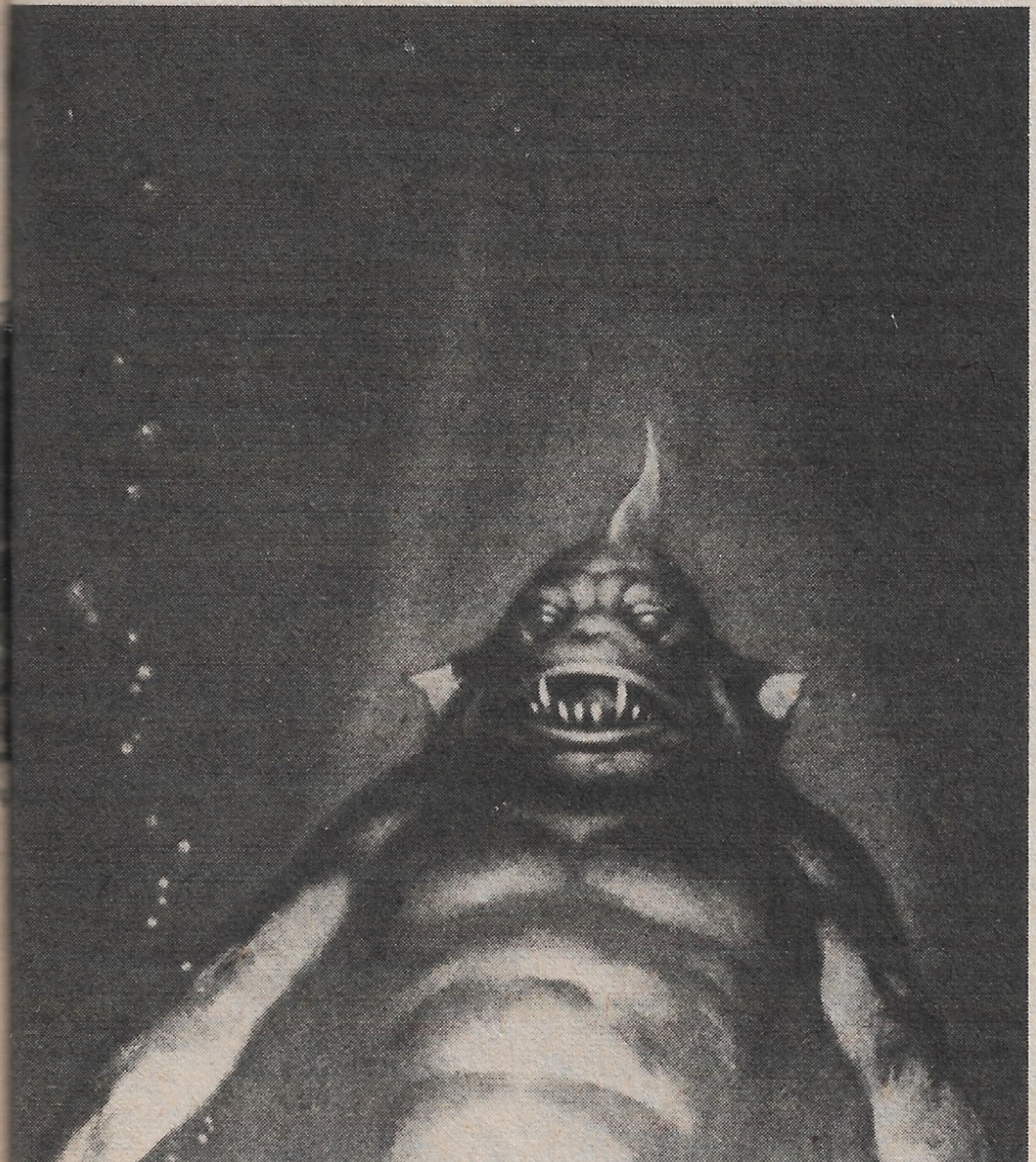
When considering the world of monsters, one must take into account "The Fantastic Art of Frank Frazetta", a brilliant new collection of 32 color plates and more than a dozen black-and-white subjects. (Bantam Books, New York, $6.95) These present, from the mid-1950s to the present, an overview of Frazetta's work as one of today's most popular illustrators of science fiction and fantasy. Also from the same publisher, there is "The Frank Frazetta Calendar 1977" ($4.95) which also includes many of the artist's finest paintings in the realm of fantasy and monsters, all different from those in the "Fantastic Art" volume.

Frazetta was born in Brooklyn, began his career as an artist at the age of 16, and during the early 1950s created his famous Buck Rogers comic strip—while doing cover art for many comic books in vogue at the time. In her introduction to "The Fantastic Art of Frank Frazetta," Betty Ballantine writes:

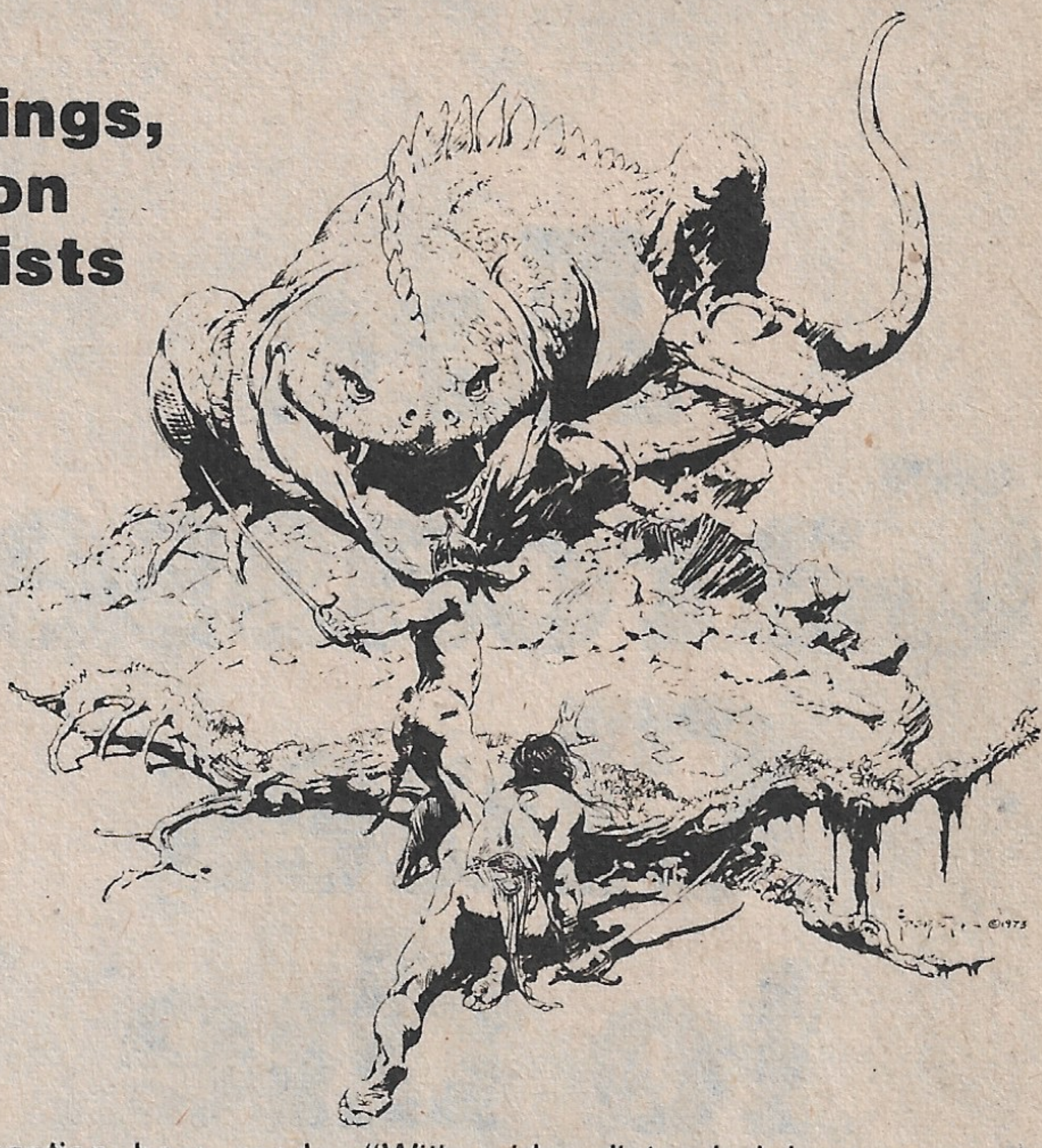
"It wasn't until 1964 that Frazetta began to hit his stride with paperbound book covers. There was a big Edgar Rice Burroughs boom and his rendition of Tarzan began to be compared with the early J. Allen St. John art. . . . From the beginning, the quality of his work stood out from all the rest, to the point where readers frequently bought books not for their contents but for the cover art! . . . The Frazetta female is uniquely his own . . . small of stature but lushly rounded and curved. She is recognizable just about anywhere, whether over the withers of a horse, or the shoulders of a large human male, or sometimes contesting with gigantic creatures from paleolithic times or imperiously commanding a swamp monster, or controlling some fantastic creature of the deep. . . . She is erotic, she is improbable and lovely and very much alive." □

Of Frank Frazetta

A Book of Color Plates and B&W Drawings, Provides an Attention-Getting Selection From One of Today's Most Popular Artists

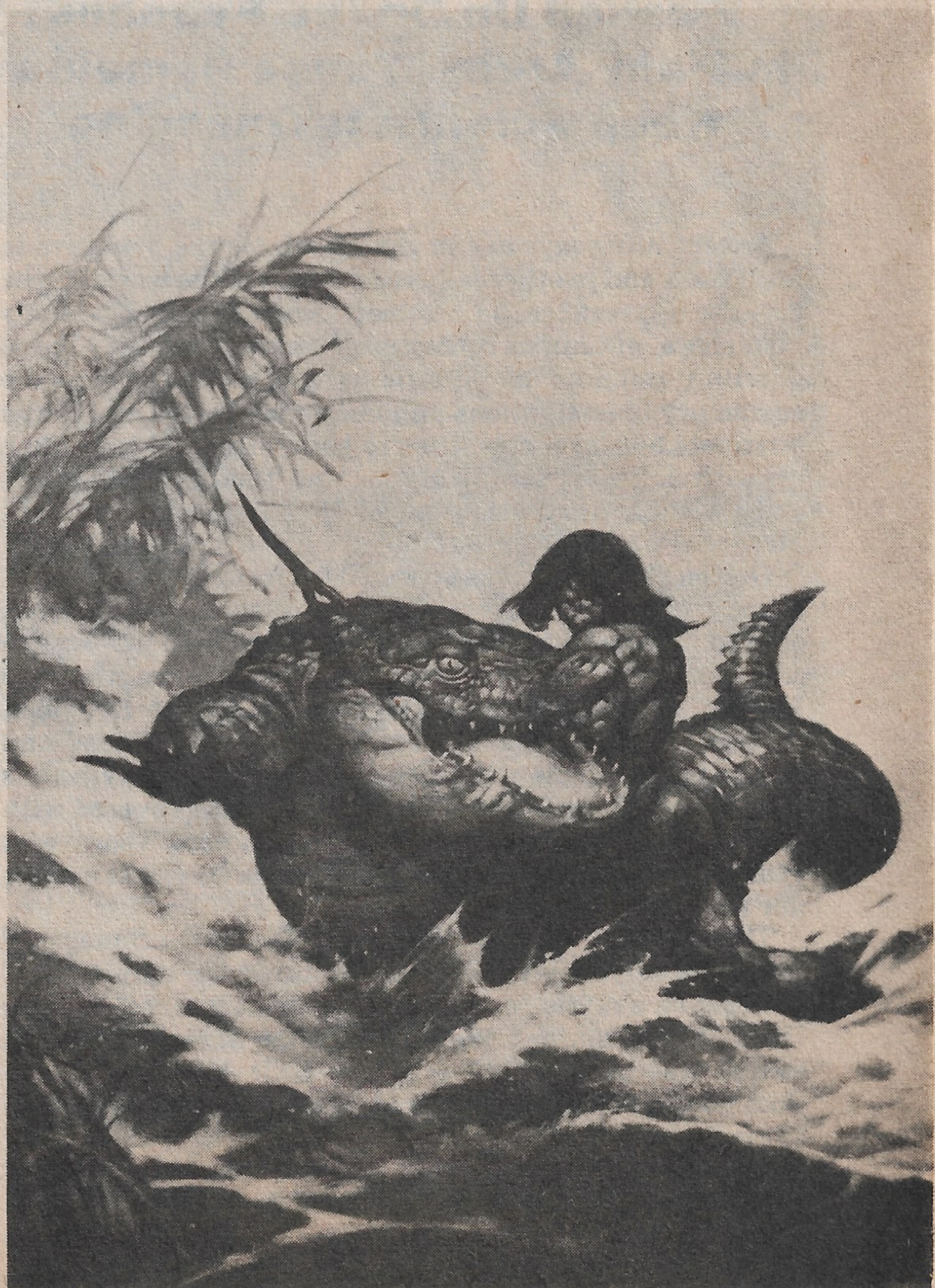


The skin-diver faces up to a challenge, if he wants to remove the treasure chest from the jurisdiction of the "Sea Monster."



The caption here reads, "With wide, distended jaws came the great white lizard." It depicts a scene from one of Edgar Rice Burroughs' science novels entitled, "A Fighting Man of Mars."

"Monster Out of Time" is the title of this painting, with the native struggling with a creature more tropical than Scottish.



Are Carcasses Clues to the Mystery?

Washed Up On the Beaches in Many Areas, These Remains Keep Scientists Guessing

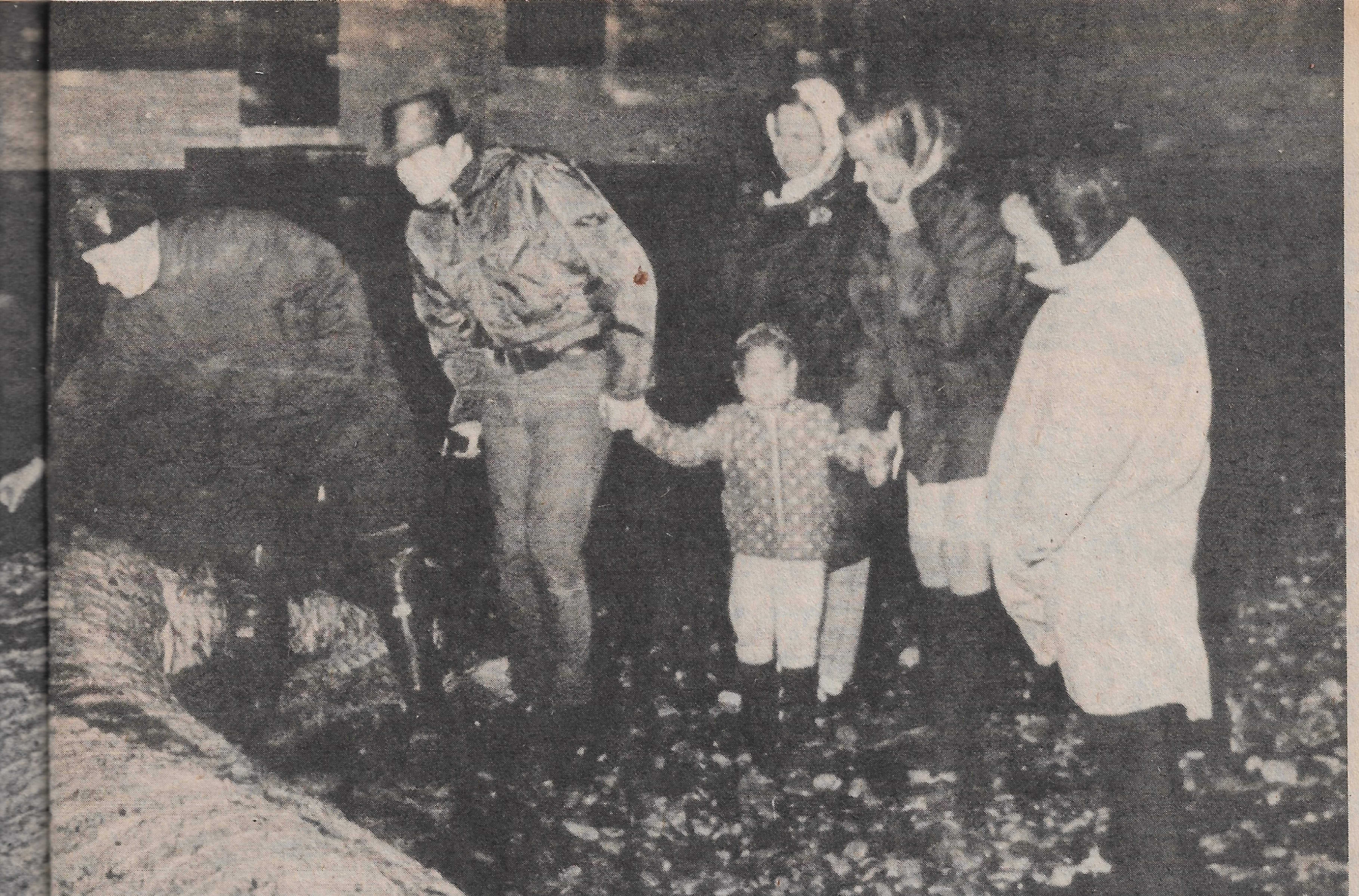
A continuing mystery in the search for the monsters in Loch Ness and in other lakes and rivers of the world, is the periodic appearance, on a remote ocean beach or a lonely lake shore, of animal carcasses of unknown origin. These puzzling remains of aquatic creatures are given the customary investigations and inspection by zoologists and scientists but, as a rule, they're generally unable to come up with definite identifications, and the episode usually ends with a news headline of this nature: "Unknown Monster Puzzles Scientists."

One such incident was reported from Hobart, Tasmania, a few years ago when a carcass was washed up on a beach on the Tasmanian west coast. It resembled no known creature and had measurements of 20 feet in length, some 18 feet in width, and a thickness of about five feet. Circular in shape, the carcass had no eyes, no head and was without a bone structure. The skin was described as "creamy, rubbery flesh, 12 inches thick, and covered with woolly hair." The general consensus among those who examined the strange remains was, "this was neither fish, nor fowl, nor fruit."

Then, what was it? Zoologist Dr. J.R. Simons of Australia's Sydney University, ventured the opinion that it might be a rayfish or a mollusc without its shell. Among those who examined the carcass, not once but several times, was Australian scientist B.C. Millison of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization.

Perhaps the most recent of the more noteworthy appearances occurred in March, 1969, when a dead creature some 30 feet long and 18 feet wide was thrown up on a beach just south of Tecoluta, a fishing village in Mexico. This particular carcass weighed a massive 35 tons. It had the body shape of a serpent and skin as hard as armor, but its most remarkable feature was a tusk, or tooth, 10 feet long protruding from the head. The body was jointed, indicating that the creature could swim.

When news of the monster carcass got around, sightseers converged on Tecoluta by the thousands while marine biologists and zoologists pondered an explanation. Some scientists on the scene theorized that it could be the body of a prehistoric sea creature from the age of dinosaurs. Frozen in the Arctic ice thousands of years ago, it could have been released after the glacier holding the

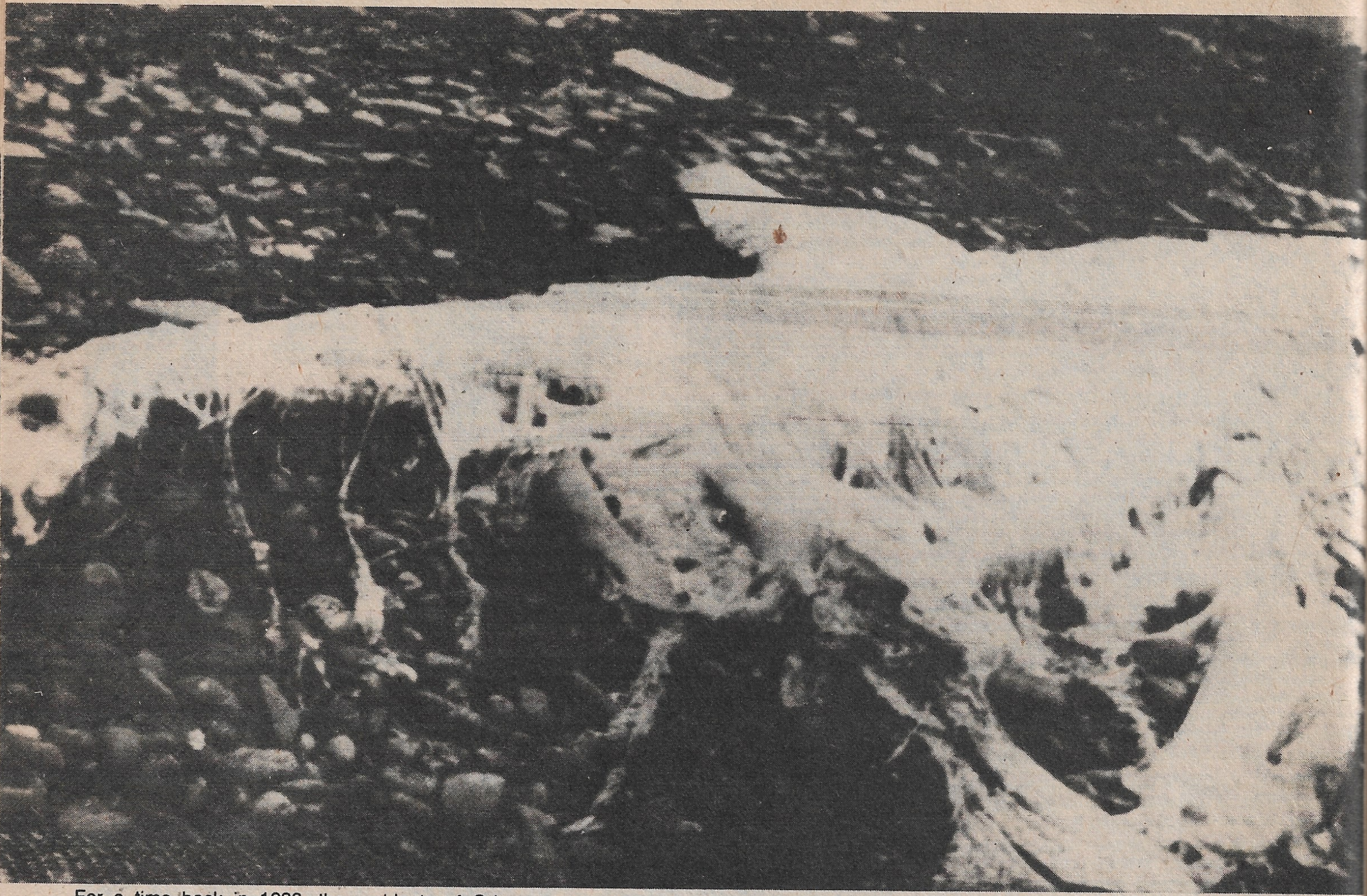


Massachusetts has its monsters, too. Local residents at Scituate, Mass., gape at the 30-foot carcass of a creature washed ashore on Mann Hill beach in 1970. Weighing about 18 tons, it was variously described as a camel without legs, coral colored fins, small head and long neck. Another mystery of the sea.

carcass floated into warmer climes and was melted. Still another group of marine biologists provided what they claimed was the logical answer—it was the badly decomposed body of a sperm whale, and the tusk, or tooth, was one of it's jawbones. So much for the saga of the Tecoluta Monster.

The southern coast of California had its carcass incident back in 1925 when something resembling a sea-serpent deposited itself on the beach at Santa Cruz. The episode was reported, in retrospect, by the November, 1929, issue of the *American Journal of Mammalogy:*

"On June 4, 1925, the newspapers of Santa Cruz and San Francisco *apprised* the public of the occurrence of a sea-serpent, or other more or less fabled monster, in California waters. A few days prior to the appearance of the newspaper stories, the remains of a large marine animal had been washed ashore on the beach at Santa Cruz. Decomposition has set it, and close examination of the carcass was not lightly undertaken. Consequently, the tales were the results of distant and hasty examination. When the news of the presence of this creature reached Dr.



For a time back in 1933, the residents of Orkney were almost certain the Loch Ness monster, their own Nessie, had been washed ashore as a carcass. This animal, 24 feet long with hair on its body and a head like a cow, had been seen off Dores Bay.

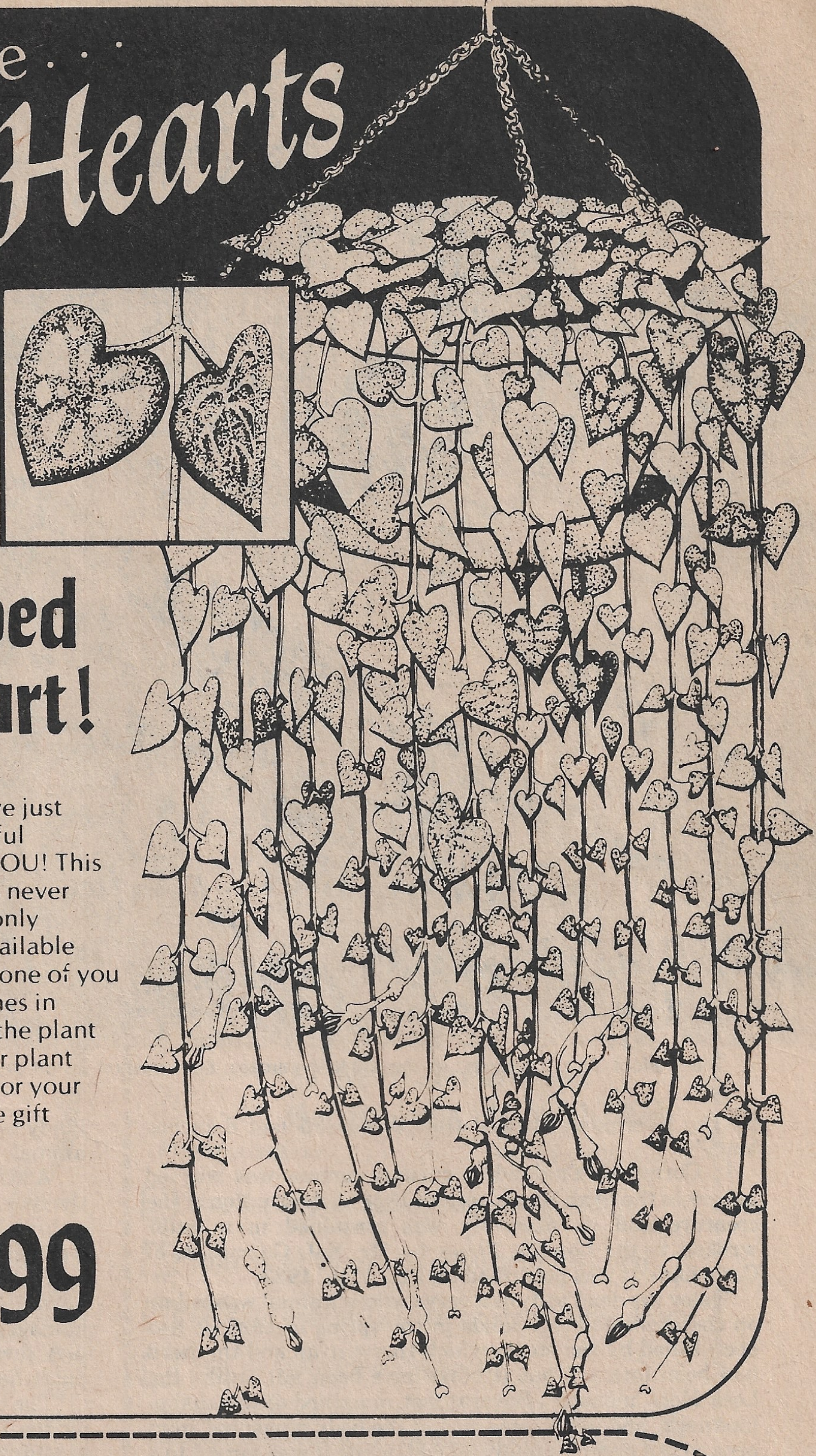
Barton Warren Evermann, Director of the Museum of the California Academy of Sciences, he visited the spot and pronounced the 'sea-serpent' to be the eviscerated carcass of a beaked whale. More specific identification was impossible at the time, but arrangements were made to have the skull preserved and it is now incorporated in the collections of the California Academy of Sciences. Examination of the skull after its arrival at the Museum proved it to be that of the rare Baird's beaked whale (*Berardius bairdii,* Stejnegner) . . . Measurements taken in the flesh

The French "Loch Ness Monster" as it appeared after being carried ashore at Querqueville in Feb. 1934. (Wide World Photos)

A close-up photo view of "neck" of the Querqueville carcass.

Nature's Own Gift Of Love . . .

String Of Hearts



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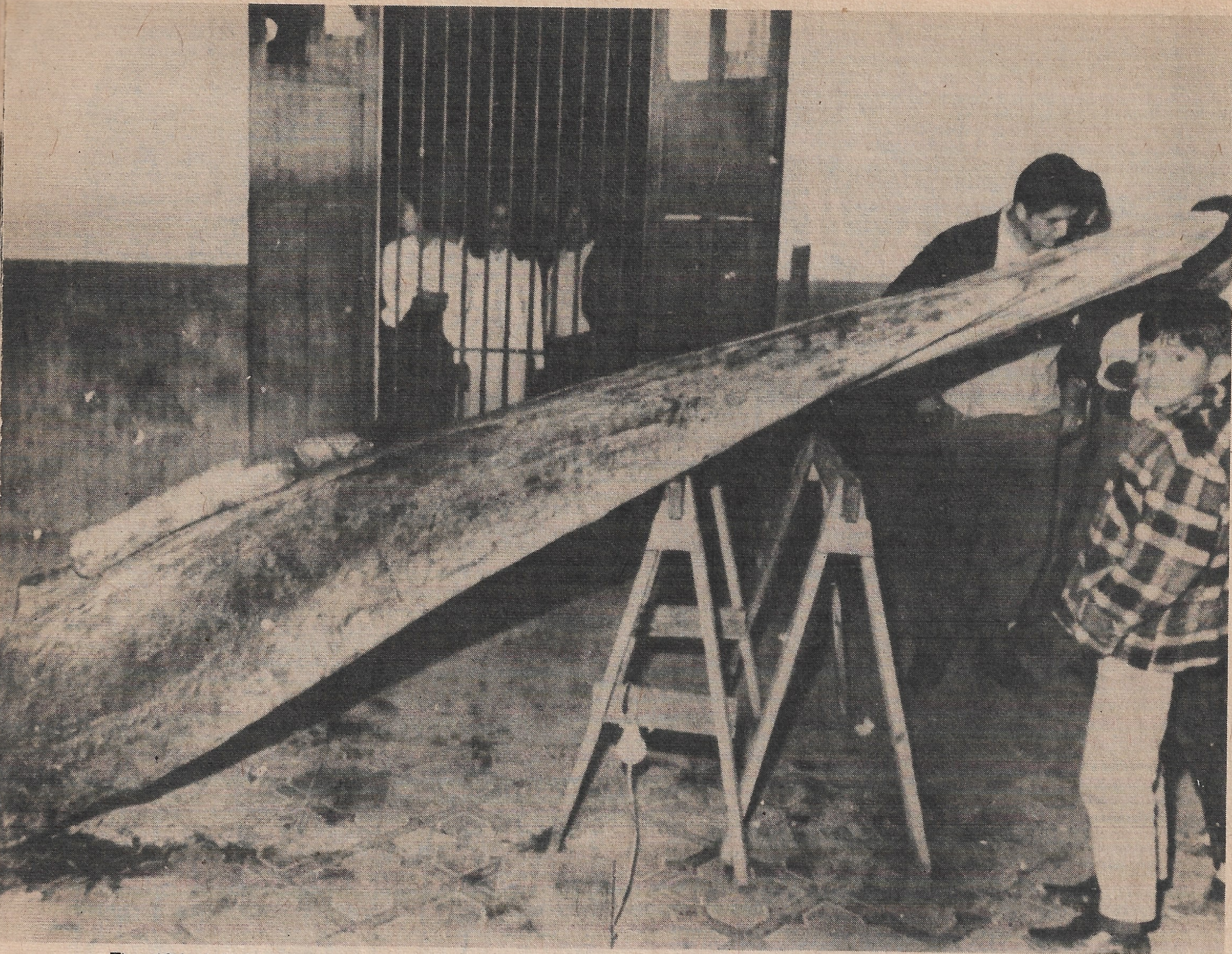


The 10-foot tusk, or tooth, of the 30-foot carcass that washed up on beach near Mexican fishing town of Tecoluta in 1969.

by Dr. Evermann showed that it was 36 feet 6 inches long."

In Cornwall, England, a curious carcass was washed ashore in the Prah Sands area in 1928. A description of the creature and its discovery was contained in a letter written to the *London Times* by Mr. E.J. Garmeson, of Caterham. It was published on Dec. 11th, 1933:

"I saw the dead body of a very curious animal washed up on the shore at Prah Sands in the spring of 1928. It had been killed by the storm which threw it up and the head had been torn off, but it must have been not unlike the Loch Ness 'monster'. Several feet remained of the snake-like neck, and what remained of the body measured from neck to tail approximately 30 feet, while it was some 3 to 4 feet in diameter at the thickest part of the body barrel. There were four feet-like slippers for swimming, and the tail tapered to a point. The colour was a dirty white with some traces of pink, the skin was coarse and covered in places with hair or bristles, while the bones, which were of considerable size, were more fish-like than animal. Unfortunately the position was such that it was impossible to get a satisfactory photograph, and the situation was too out of the way for any proper investigation to be made."

The years 1933 and 1934, as we have seen, were banner years for sightings in the Loch Ness area and the attendant world-wide publicity made millions of people in many countries very "monster conscious." So when on February 28th, 1934, a large carcass was found by fishermen on the shore at the French village of Querqueville near Cherbourg, many persons understandably were ready to believe that France had found its own Loch Ness animal. The *London Times* first carried the item:

"A marine monster, 25 feet long, has been cast ashore on the rocks at Querqueville. Its carcass, five feet thick, bears a thin neck three feet long, with a head resembling that of a camel. The beast has two large lateral fins, a dorsal fin, and a tail. Its body is covered with white hair, like thick horse-hair. Unfortunately, the carcass has been much damaged by boys, and sea-birds are preying on it."

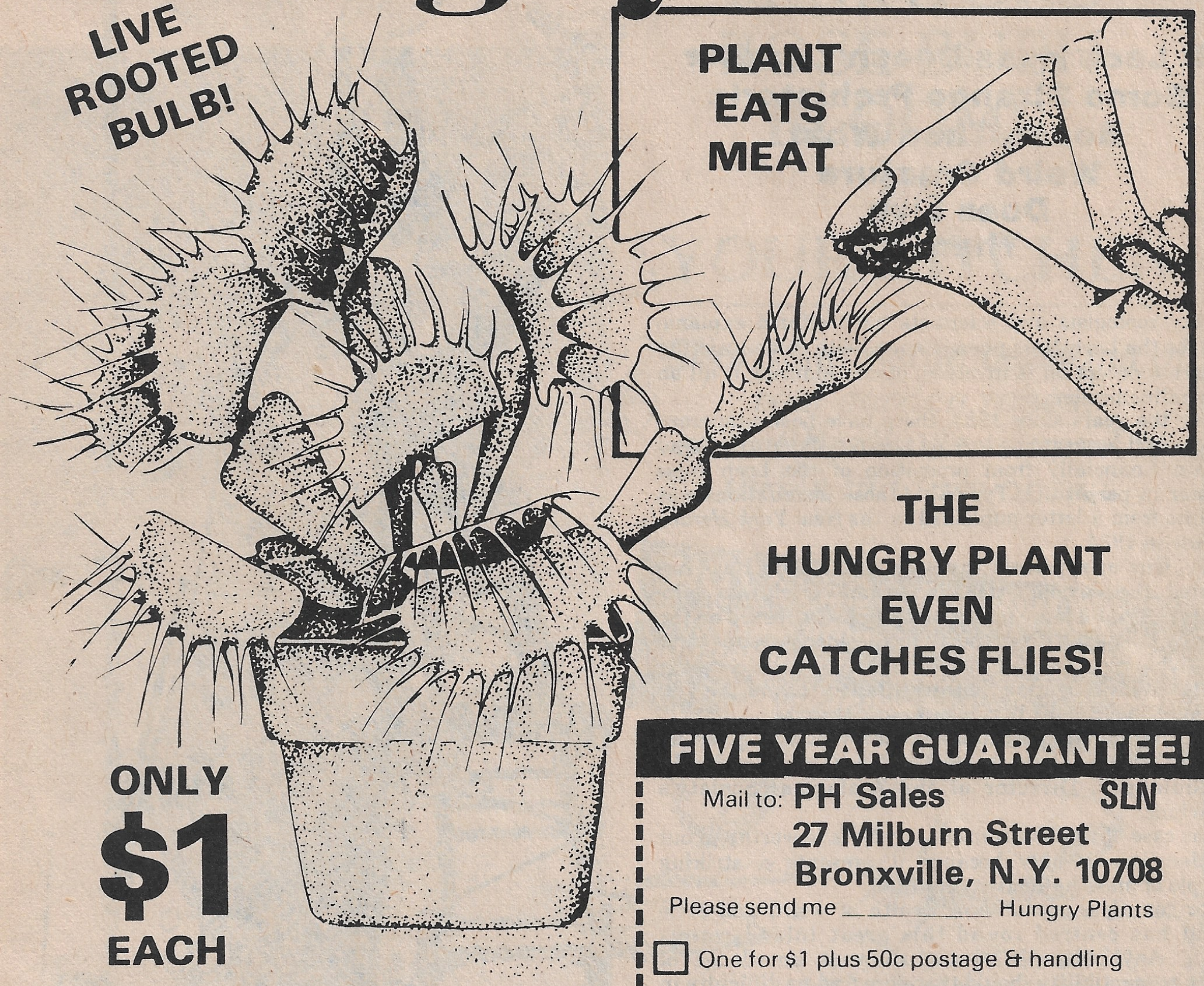
A few days later on March 3rd, the Paris *La Croix* published this account of the events at Querqueville:

"The carcass of the strange creature recently discovered on the beach, whose body is already much decomposed, exhibits four fins, which possess the pecularity of being hairy. The monster's skin is also covered with hairs, which are mingled with its fatty substance. The head, which has been much knocked about during the periods when the carcass was under water, has in great measure disappeared. However, the cartilages forming the palate of this enormous cetacean are still discernible. At about 50 metres distance from the carcass, are the giant animal's lungs, peritoneum and kidneys. A remarkable feature is that the skeleton is composed of a cartilaginous material exclusively, and not of bone. It is supposed that the animal has been struck, mutilated, and killed by some vessel, and that its inert mass subsequently drifted ashore at Querqueville. . . ."

All of which seems to prove that catching a monster dead is fairly easy—but nabbing one alive, that's something else again. □

Nature's Mysterious

Hungry Plant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EXPLANATIONS: A Different View of Nessie

If Loch Ness Doesn't Harbor Some Strange Prehistoric Beast, Then What Weird Creature Does Live There?

Many zoologists and scientists have offered explanations for the Loch Ness phenomenon, with some insisting deliberate deception is involved, others blaming it all on mass hallucination.

Over the years since 1933, there have been numerous charges and accusations leveled against those who stand to gain financially from promotion of the Loch Ness monster in perpetuity. Typical of these insinuations was this line from a letter published in the *New York Herald Tribune* in 1934:

". . . . Our own private investigator at Loch Ness has reported the curious, though perhaps irrelevant, circumstance that a large new resort hotel was opened on the shore of the lake about the time the monster was first extensively reported."

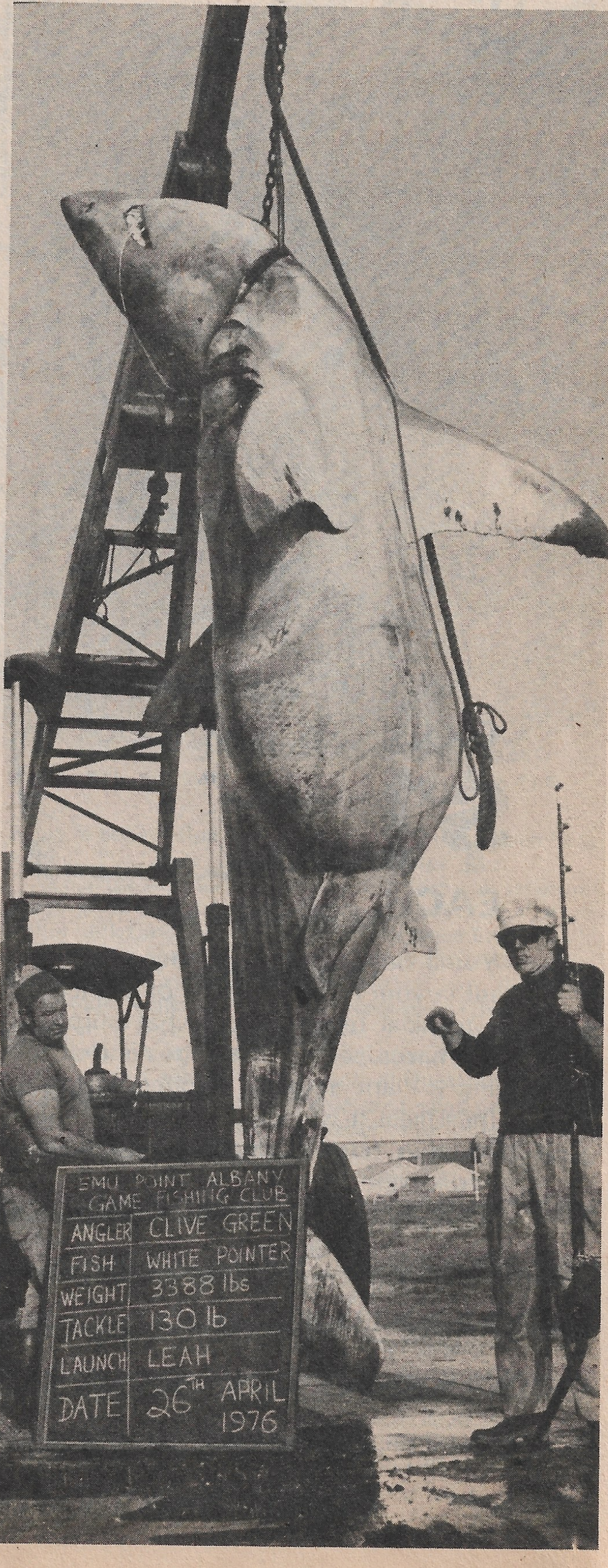
Further investigation, however, failed to find the "resort hotel" mentioned in the letter.

As for the mass hallucination theory, it was given an airing in 1933 in a letter to the *London Observer* by Mr. E. G. Boulenger, Director of the Zoological Society's Aquarium:

"The case of the Monster of Loch Ness is worthy of our consideration, if only because it presents a striking example of mass-hallucination. . . .

"For countless centuries a wealth of weird and eerie legend has centred round this great inland waterway. . . . Any person with the slightest knowledge of human susceptibility should therefore find no difficulty in understanding how the animal, once being said to have been seen by few persons, should have shortly after revealed itself to many more. In the present instance the possibility of the beast actually being some huge animal must be ruled out, since the loch was, until lately, isolated but for certain subterranean inlets. To-day its extremities join the sea by well-supervised canals, in which a creature of any size would be at once apparent.

". . . the most likely, if disappointing, explanation is to be found in the wreckage of one kind and another often seen in the loch. A gnarled tree-trunk or grass-topped mass of peat might, in the distance, suggest, under certain



Nessie was seen on land as late as 1960, with one witness estimating the creature's body length to be 40 to 60 feet. Zoologists say the Brontosaurus dinosaur was 60 feet long, and a really large Great White Shark extends 30 feet. The killer shark shown above is 16 feet long and weighs record 3,388 lbs. It was caught by Australian angler Clive Green (right) after a 4-hour 50-minute battle off the coast of Western Australia. According to Green, it's the biggest fish ever caught with a reel and line. The Guinness Book of World Records agrees, but refuses to list the record because Green used whale meat to catch the monster female shark, in violation of game fish rules.

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lighting conditions, a monster of heraldic design and titanic proportions.... Taking all these considerations into account, it is safe to dismiss the creature as mere 'moonshine.'..."

The mass hallucination theory also had a supporter in Sir Arthur Keith, a scientist who used the term "nonsense" more often than not. His views were given exposure in the letters column of the *London Daily Mail:*

"All the laymen who have visited Loch Ness to collect evidence at first hand lay great stress on the number of witnesses that can be produced.... Strange to say, it is just the great number of witnesses and the discrepancy of their testimony that have convinced professional zoologists that the Loch Ness monster is not a thing of flesh and blood.

"For, seeing that monstrosaurus has been told by so many people, at so many times and in so many places, then concrete and unmistakable evidence of its existence should have been at our disposal long before now. A live hippopotamus or a dolphin could not hide itself in Loch Ness from prying human eyes for a week, to say nothing of three months.

"The only kind of being whose existence is testified to by scores of witnesses, and which never reaches the dissecting table, belongs to the world of spirits."

And the *London Daily Telegraph* published the account of a steamer's experience while sailing through a Norwegian fjord. The crew had noticed a series of "round black objects" which seemed to be following the ship:

"Some passengers thought that the three or four black objects were seals; others rejected the seal theory, on account of the regularity with which they kept in line, and plumped for a sea-serpent.

"Eventually, it occurred to many of us that we were looking at a purely wave effect on the shelving shore, caused by the boat's motion. The absence of any connecting wave between these black objects and the boat would be due, probably, to the great depth of water, which affects wave-lengths, while the blackness would be the result of the shading effect of the steep southern wall [of the fiord]."

The water bailiff at Fort Augustus, A. Campbell, got into the controversy by writing a letter, on Oct. 28th, 1933, addressed to the Ness Fishery Board. He apparently became "disillusioned by an illusion:"

"One day early last month, at about half-past nine in the morning, I was watching this end of the Loch. The light was very uncertain, there being a fairly thick haze on the water, and along with this the sun was shining directly in my eye through the mist, making the visibility very bad.

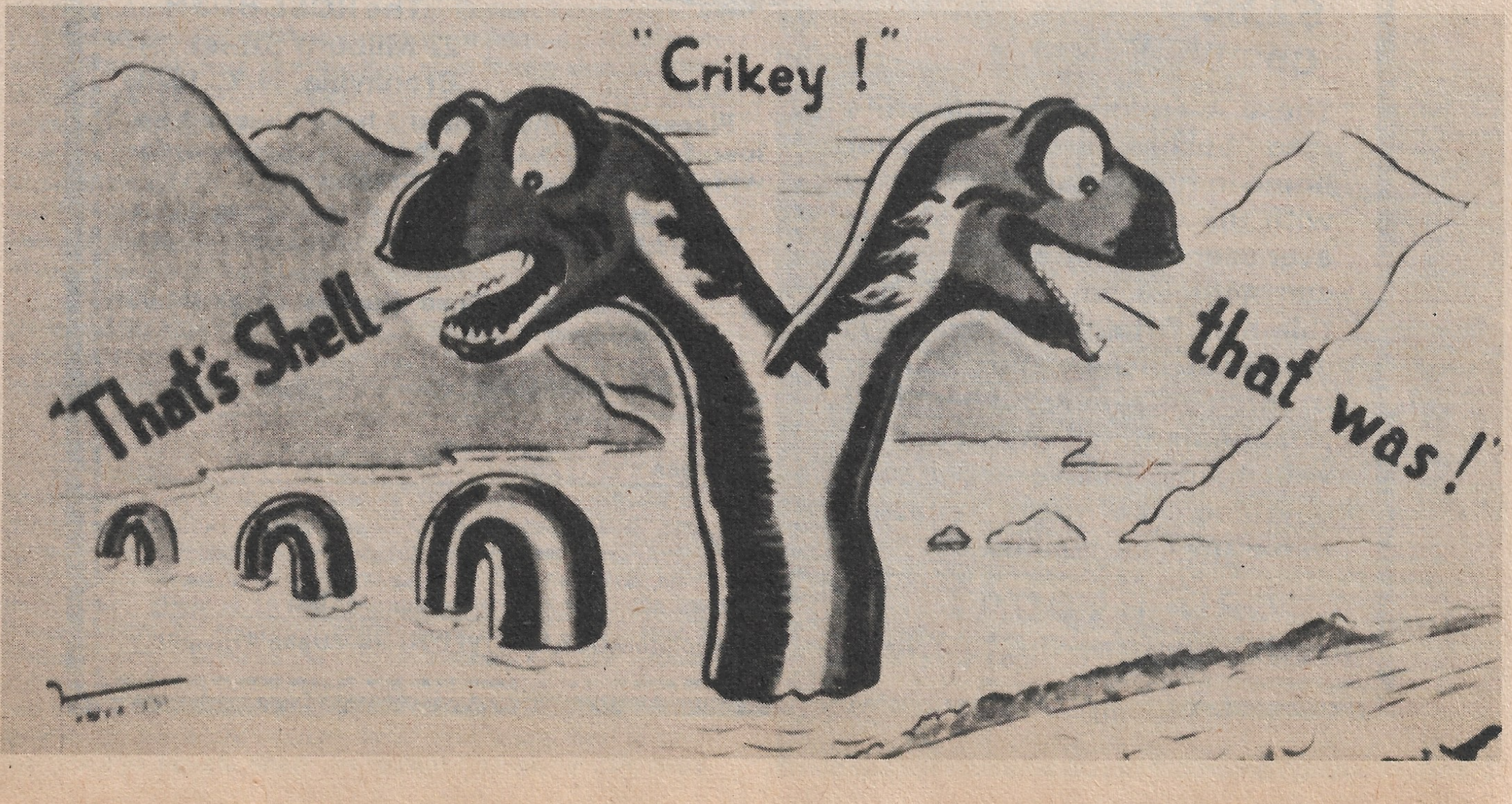
"I had not been watching for more than a minute before I noticed a strange object on the surface about six hundred yards from where I stood. It seemed to be about 30 feet long, and what I took to be the head was fully 5 feet above the surface of the Loch. The creature, if such it was, and at the time I felt certain of it, seemed to be watching two drifters passing out of the Canal and into Loch Ness; and, whether it was due to imagination or not, I could have sworn that it kept turning its head and also its body very quickly, in much the same way as a cormorant does on rising to the surface. I saw this for fully a minute, then the object vanished as if it had sunk out of sight.... I ran back to where my boat was anchored; but by the time I got back to where I could see the object—if it had re-appeared—there was no sign of it....

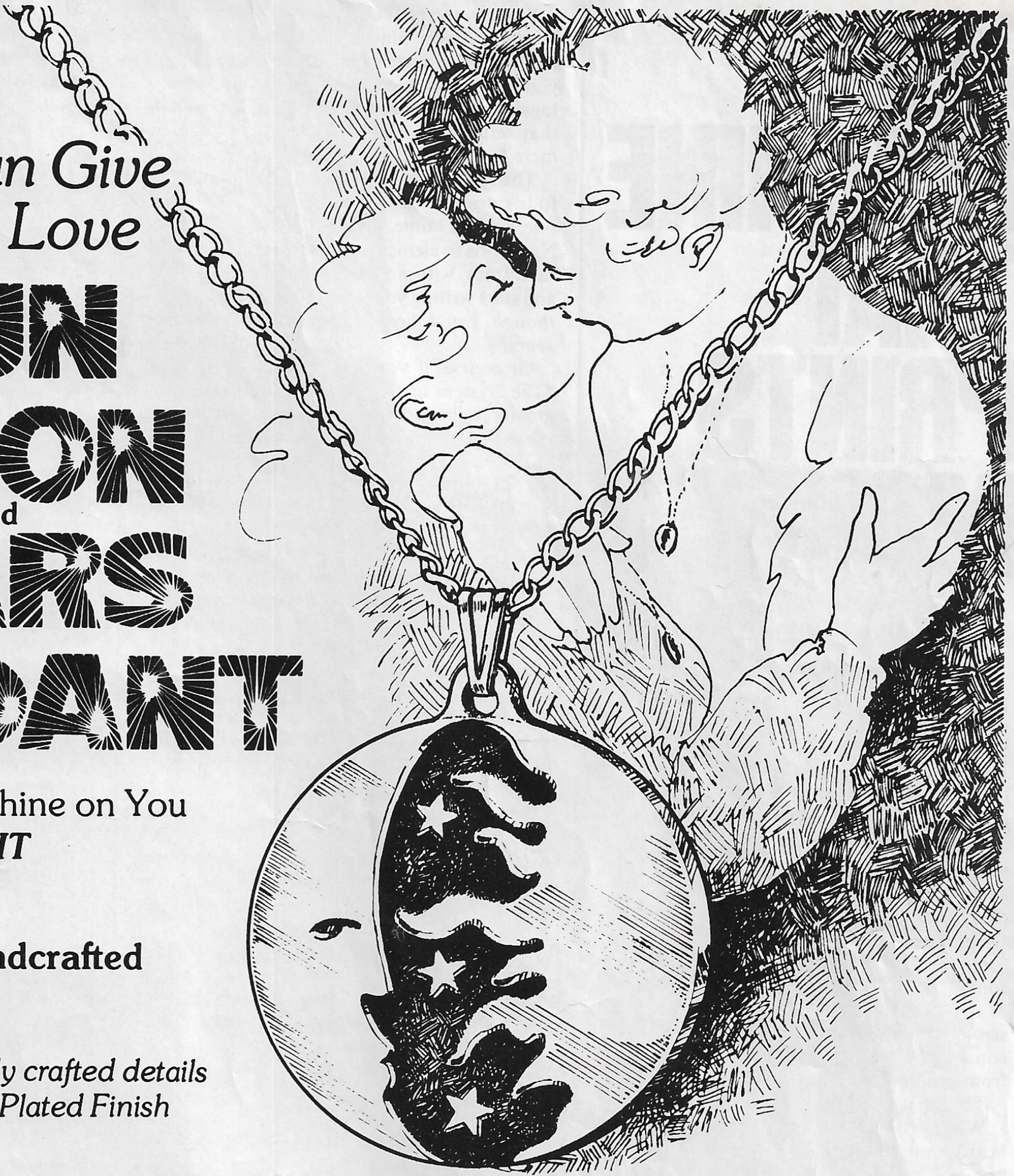
"Last Friday I was watching the Loch at the same place and about the same time of day. The weather was almost identical—practically calm and the sun shining through a hazy kind of mist. In a short time something very like what I have described came into my line of vision and at roughly the same distance from where I stood.

"But the light was improving all the time, and in a matter of seconds I discovered that what I took to be the Monster was nothing more than a few cormorants, and what seemed to be the head was a cormorant standing in the water and flapping its wings, as they often do. The other cormorants, which were strung out in a line behind the leading bird, looked in the poor light and at first glance, just like the body or humps of the Monster, as it has been described by various witnesses.

"But the most important thing was, that owing to the uncertain light the bodies of the birds were magnified out of all proportion to their proper size. This mirage-like effect I have often seen on Loch Ness, although not exactly in the same form as I have just described. Other people, who know the Loch, can verify my statement as to the mirage, but it only occurs under certain conditions and if the Loch is calm. Then it gives every object—from, say, a gull or a bottle to an empty barrel—a very grotesque appearance provided that such objects are far enough away from the observer...." □

Advertising men were quick to include Nessie in their layouts. This 1934 cartoon-type ad boosts Shell Oil and was prepared by John Reynolds. The ad line read: "Knock-less is a nice touch."


"Crikey !"
"That's Shell—
that was!"



Now You Can Give the One You Love

THE SUN THE MOON and THE STARS PENDANT

May Good Luck Shine on You
DAY and ***NIGHT***

Beautifully Handcrafted Perfection

THE **SUN** —*carefully crafted details in 14K Solid Gold Plated Finish*

THE **MOON** —*hand polished silver finish depicting each and every detail*

THE **STARS** —*finished in exquisite enamel suspended from a stunning 24 inch matching rope chain*

This exquisite pendant depicts the heavenly bodies in a design of timeless beauty—appropriate for all seasons and all occasions. Issued in strictly limited edition available in 14K solid gold plated finish, silver finish and hand enameled. Each pendant is struck with a brilliant proof of finish.

This heavenly masterpiece of the Jeweler's art makes a striking fashion accessory . . . complementing both casual and formal wear. It looks so rich and expensive no one will believe you paid only $8.00! ORDER TODAY!

WEAR THIS PENDANT FOR 90 DAYS AT OUR RISK. IF NOT COMPLETELY SATISFIED RETURN FOR REFUND.

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Please rush me______pendant(s) @$8.00 plus 60c shipping and handling.
SAVE! Order *TWO* for only $14.00 plus 80c shipping and handling.

Enclosed is ☐ check or ☐ money order for $____________Sorry, no C.O.D.'s (N.Y. residents add sales tax.)
Please print

Name________________________________

Address______________________________

City__________ State__________ Zip__________

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THE MACHINE THAT PRINTS MONEY.

One of the first things I learned as a boy was, "You don't get something for nothing."

Today I know that is simply not true!

I make that statement because I have in my hand *the system of the century* — a device that virtually *prints* money!

Now I'm not talking about a party gag, magic show or variety-store item. This method is not a gimmick that will "amaze your friends" until the trick is discovered. What I'm talking about is a fantastic new technique to *invest* — and *re-invest* — your money until the small sum you started with is multiplied into *many thousands of dollars.*

Do I have your attention so far?

Good. Because my method has to do with something that many people find distasteful . . . yes, even *laugh at!* The subject brings out strong opinions in almost everyone — pro or con — and may get a pretty strong reaction from you, too.

The subject is horse racing.

Whoa. Stop right there. I know . . . I've heard everything there is to say about the ponies. "You can't beat the horses." "A fool and his money are soon parted." "Gamble with fate, and you pay the price." "I had an uncle who lost everything . . ."

I don't argue with anybody. If a person is bent on self-destruction, he's simply going to find a way. Booze. Women. Debts. Gambling. Maybe even drugs. Nothing you can do or say is going to change the outcome, and the method that the troubled person takes to beat himself is not the issue.

Over the years horse racing has come in for a big share of the knocks. Everybody knows somebody who has gambled away a living, maybe a fortune, on the sport of kings. Recently I talked to a very solid citizen who told me, "If racing's the sport of kings, *I* never saw any kings out there!"

Again, I don't argue the point. Because I know what I know. I know that a prudent person who has a few dollars to spend can make a very handsome living at the track — with my secret, strictly — and I'll argue *that* point with anybody!

My secret is simple. So simple, in fact, that I am sure some of the so-called racing "experts" will sneer at my method *without* even investigating it. After all, that's human nature. But really, I don't feel bad . . . *why should I?* I have what they don't have . . . what no one has. The *secret* to a machine that virtually *prints money!*

I call my secret "The System of the Century." If you've never played the horses before (in fact, if you've never even been to a race track!), you'll be astounded at the simplicity of this logical, common-sense way to pick winners that return $10, $20, and even $50 bills for a mere $2 wager.

The system consists of four simple rules . . . four rules you can read and memorize in just *one hour* at home. One of these rules — Rule No. 4 — is so elementary that you can go to any race track with an infield turf (grass) course and start writing your own checks tomorrow *as though you'd been a track pro for twenty years!*

Of course, if you're a regular horseplayer, "The System of the Century" will have even greater appeal. How many times have you spent *hours* pouring over a single race, doping out every detail, figuring every angle . . . only to find that the horse you picked to begin with — and decided against for some reason even *you* can't remember — romped home an easy winner? (And paid a whopping $60!) Or how about the time your brother-in-law talked you off that horse you knew would win — and did!

But I'm not here to change anybody's mind or re-open old wounds. What I'm here to do is to tell you about a method, a *technique* that is so *ridiculously easy to understand* . . . a system that will put so much money in your pocket . . . you'll wonder where it's been all these years.

Where *has* "The System of the Century" been all this time? The answer: In my head. I've been in racing all my life, and in that time I've had good years and lean years. Over the years I have become progressively better at what I do: *win money at the races.* (Last year it made over $500,000 for me — yes, over a half-a-million bucks — and I'm only 33 years old!)

One night, when I was bored watching TV, I sat and wrote down on a piece of paper the things that I consider to be *critically important* during the running of a horse race. Would you believe it? I came up with only *four* things — and all so simple a twelve-year-old can master them in under sixty minutes!

That's how "The System of the Century" was born. And I decided right then and there to make the system available to anyone with a "will to win" — with an *honest interest* in getting ahead.

All you need is a grubstake — as little as $20 — and a little patience. "The System of the Century" does the rest. Just follow these four little rules (strictly!) and start cashing those big parimutuel tickets most folks just dream about.

Why, just the other day a fellow approached me at Belmont and asked me what I liked. I normally don't hand out advice at the track, but this player looked as though he needed a break.

So I told him I like a horse named Black Springs, an eleven-to-one shot. The guy pondered that for a moment, then said, "No way. I give the favorite, Counter Gambit, a big edge . . . I guess I'll go bet it. Thanks anyway."

To make a long story short, Black Springs is six lengths in front at the head of the stretch and wins easily, with Counter Gambit running second at less-than-even money. Black Springs pays $24.40 straight, and my player friend comes running up to tell me he'll never doubt me again. He hasn't, either. Armed with "The System of the Century," he'll never need advice or money again.

I recognize that the world is full of skeptics, so I make this proposition to you. Send me $9.95 as payment in full for the "System of the Century." Use this method at your local race track for fifteen days, making sure to follow my rules as outlined therein. Bet all you want — and keep what you take in with my blessings!

And here's the best part. If my method fails to work for you in exactly the manner I've described, *you have risked nothing* . . . because I'll send your original check back to you — uncashed! (Just date your check one month ahead. That way nobody can touch your ten bucks while you prove to yourself that "The System of the Century" is everything I say it is.)

Could anything be fairer?

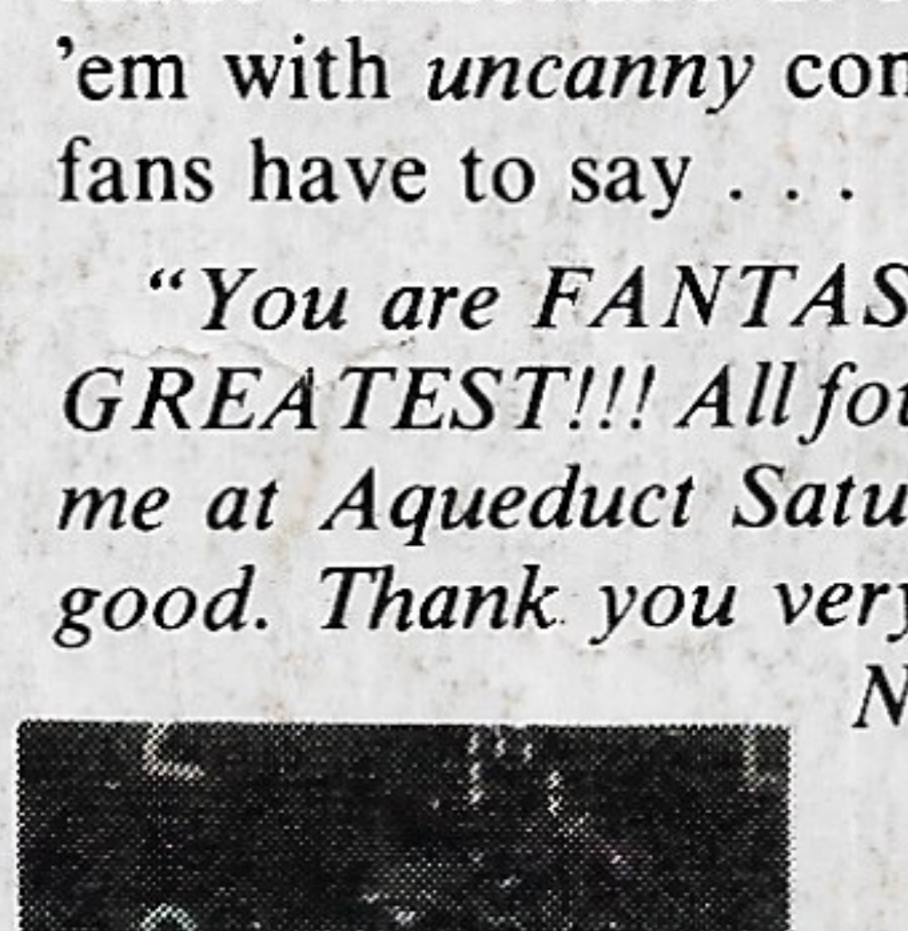
You owe it to yourself to find out about "the machine that prints money." I'm Mike Warren . . . I'm well-known in racing circles . . . *and I say it's so.*

Act now. Today. *Can you afford to guess that I'm wrong?*

WHO IS MIKE WARREN?

America's premier handicapper. Mike Warren is well on his way to becoming a self-made millionaire at 33 . . . because he picks 'em with *uncanny* consistency. Read what his fans have to say . . .

"You are FANTASTIC!!! Absolutely THE GREATEST!!! All four of the horses you gave me at Aqueduct Saturday won and paid real good. Thank you very much . . ."
N.P., Los Angeles, Calif.



"I must tell you . . . it's just fantastic. Both horses (clicked). The first paid $35.40 . . . the second $10.20 — made a nice bundle."
E.A.S., Chicago, Illinois

Sworn statement...

This is to certify that all statements made in this ad are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. MIKE WARREN is a professional handicapper of Thoroughbred horses, and his gross income for the last twelve months was in excess of $500,000.00.

A. Belous

CLIP & MAIL TODAY

FREE EXAMINATION OFFER

Mike Warren SLN
The Baltimore Bulletin, Inc.
380 Madison Ave.,
N.Y., N.Y. 10017

Dear Mike:

O.K., I'll try anything once. Please send me "The System of the Century" by return mail. I understand that if your method doesn't make big money for me as you have outlined, all I have to do is return it within a month and my uncashed check will be returned to me.

On that basis, here is my check for $9.95 *dated one month from now.* (If you're enclosing a money order that can't be dated ahead, you have the same money-back guarantee.)

☐ For immediate first class shipment, add 50¢. (in coins or stamps, please).

Name ____________________
Address ____________________
City ____________________
State ____________ Zip ________

Please make check payable to "The Baltimore Bulletin"